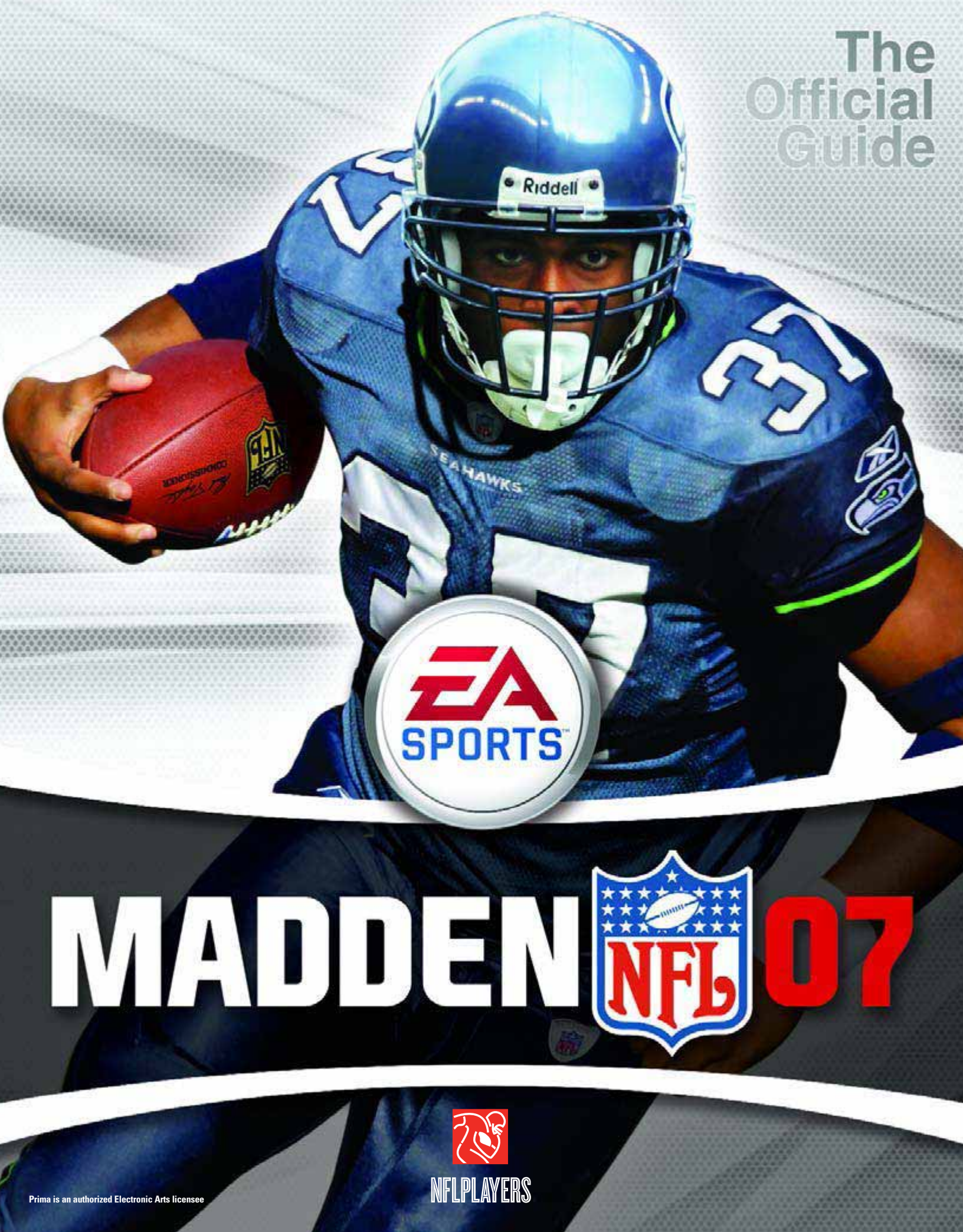
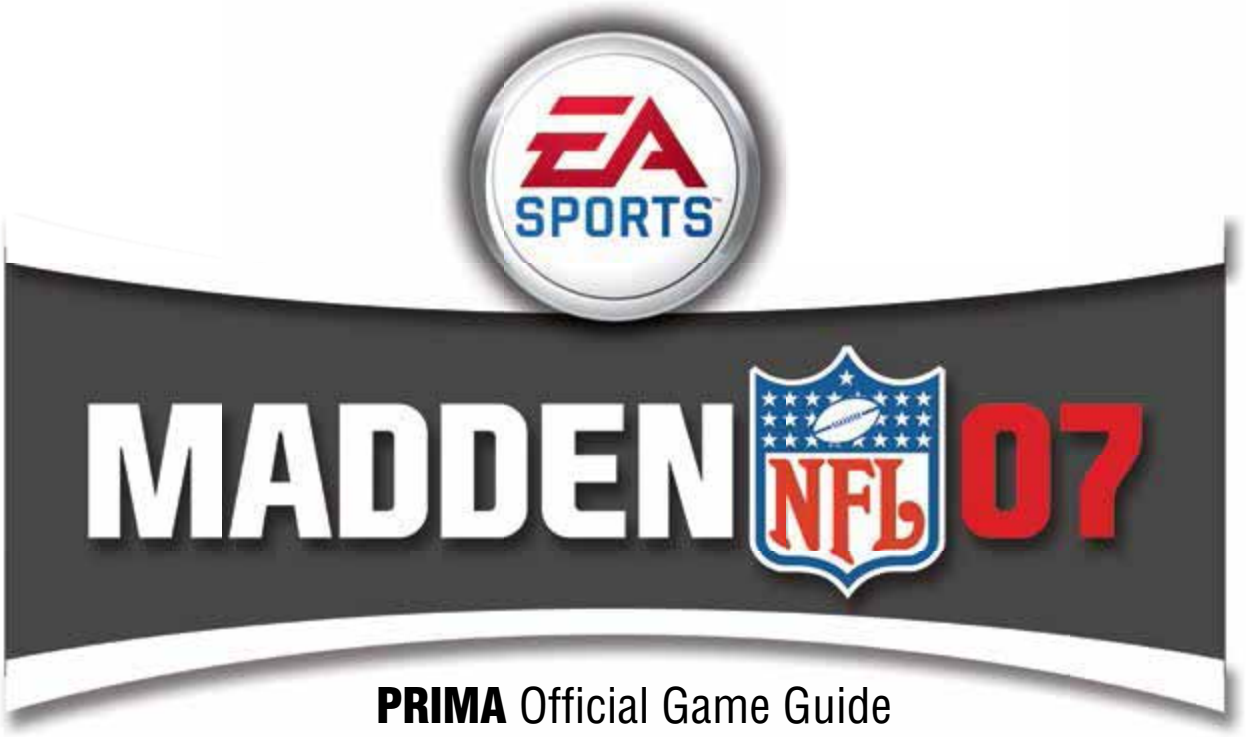

The Official Guide
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3000 Lava Ridge Court
Roseville, CA 95661
1-800-733-3000
www.primagames.com

Strategy Guide Created By:
Kaizen Media Group

President: Howard Grossman
Writers: The Sports Video Gamers
Designer: Tim Davis
Layout & Production: Craig Keller & Hg

EA SPORTS Fantasy Footbal section written by the Prima Crew: Jeff Barton, Don Tica, James Knight, Fernando Bueno, Brandon Smith, Andy Rolleri, Chris Rojas, Paul Giacomotto, Dan Ransom

Product Manager: Mario De Govia

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Modes & Features 04

Offensive Strategy 08

Defensive Strategy 30

Team Strategies 42

Bears	42	Chiefs	82	Jaguars	122	Ravens	162
Bengals	47	Colts	87	Jets	127	Redskins	167
Bills	52	Cowboys	92	Lions	132	Saints	172
Broncos	57	Dolphins	97	Packers	137	Seahawks	177
Browns	62	Eagles	102	Panthers	142	Steelers	182
Buccaneers	67	Falcons	107	Patriots	147	Texans	187
Cardinals	72	49ers	112	Raiders	152	Titans	192
Chargers	77	Giants	117	Rams	157	Vikings	197

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CONTENTS

Franchise Mode 202

NFL Superstar Mode 212

Madden NFL 07 Online 216

Next Generation 220

EA SPORTS Fantasy Football 225

Mini-Games 242

Madden Cards 246

Depth Charts 251

Roster Attributes 256

Controls 268

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MODES & FEATURES

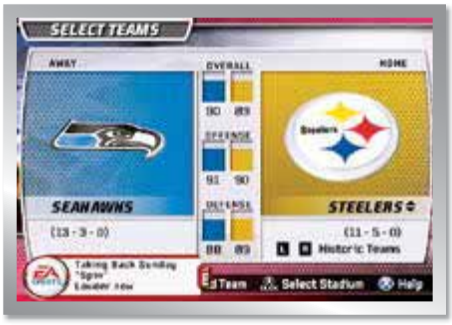
Welcome to *Madden NFL 07*. This is our favorite time of the year: not only does the NFL season kick off, but there's fantasy football and of course *Madden NFL Football*! This year's game brings special emphasis on running the ball with all new Lead Blocking Controls, juke moves, and of course the Highlight stick.

Prima Guides is back with The Official Strategy Guide to *Madden NFL 07*. Our guides are updated each year to give you a more in-depth look at the game than ever before. Pick up your sticks and get ready for a whirlwind tour of this year's virtual gridiron classic.

GAME MODES

Here we'll go over the nuts and bolts of *Madden NFL 07*.

Play Now



This is the quickest way to get your game on. When you have some friends over or just want to get in a quick skirmish against the computer, select the Play Now option and get going. Choose your team, weather, and stadium, then play.

NOTE: The results and stats of Play Now games are saved with your profile, allowing you to gain points to unlock Madden Cards for your collection. See the Madden Cards section for a complete breakdown of the challenges and rewards.

Madden NFL 07 Online



Playing *Madden NFL Football* against the computer gets more difficult each year. However, for the ultimate in competition, nothing beats going head-to-head with a human opponent. You'll need an online adapter for your PS2 and an Xbox Live account for your Xbox. For more on online play, refer to the online section of this guide.

Tournament



For a quick shot of competition with your friends, fire up a tournament. You can customize the elimination settings and fill the tourney with up to 16 players.

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Two-Minute Drill



In this mode you can simulate the end-of-game frenzy as you dash down the field trying to score as often as you can. This is an excellent tool for working on your clock management and no-huddle offense. Call quick hot routes to change up your play and rack up as many points as possible.

Once you press Start, you have 2:00 on the clock and the ball at your own 20-yard line. The clock starts as soon as you snap the ball. Get out of bounds to stop the clock and save time. You can also play this game in head-to-head mode where you and a buddy take turns playing offense and defense.

Two-Minute Drill Tips

- Don't take a sack. Throw the ball away if you have to. These are incredible time wasters.
- If you do run the ball, make it a sweep or toss play. Get out of bounds as fast as you can. Getting hit inbounds will eat up your time in a hurry.
- Work on the deep routes. You want to be able to hit fades, streaks, and corner routes to move the ball quickly down the field. Mix in some short out routes that you can get to the sidelines with to keep the defense honest.

Rushing Attack

If you didn't try Rushing Attack against another human player online or offline last year, you missed out on a lot of fun. We guarantee that if you spend time in Rushing Attack, you will see your skills at running the ball dramatically improve in real games.

Mini-Games

Mini-Camp is the best method to improve your stick skills and become a better player. Earning a GOLD on the higher levels unlocks special Madden Cards.

NFL Network

EA SPORTS ditched Madden 101 in favor of the all-new NFL Network game mode. While this mode is not a complete departure from Madden 101, it does have some new features that make it unique. As you begin NFL Network mode, you pick from one of the current NFL teams. Former NFL great Sterling Sharpe leads you through three offensive and three defensive plays from your team's playbook. Pick Preview Breakdown, and he takes you to the practice field where the play is diagrammed out. You'll see the play and Sharpe gives you an overview of the key things you need to know to execute it properly. After that you have the opportunity to practice the play for yourself. On passing plays, a receiver's icon lights up green when he breaks open. Now is the time to fire him the ball for the completion. If you are new to NFL football, take some time to go through the NFL Network playbook for several of the teams. This helps you get up to speed with NFL terminology and how offensive and defensive coordinators think.

Practice

Top players spend the majority of their time here. Unless you spend serious time in this mode, you will never reach your peak as a baller. Take your team and favorite playbook and hit the field. Run your plays against all different types of defenses to see how they work best. As the season evolves and new go-to plays come out, you can go into practice mode to figure out how to defend them best.

Practice Types

Normal	Offense vs. Defense
Offense Only	Only your offense will show up on the field
Kickoff	Practice your special teams plays

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Create a Fan



For the hard-core fan, nothing beats being able to go to a game and get dressed up to root for the home team. Create a Fan allows you to do just that, but *Madden NFL Football* style. Once your fan has been created, you see him cheering in the stands whenever you make a big play. You can add foam hands, crazy face paint, and even pick his clothes.

Create a Player



The first step in creating a player is to fill in the Information and Appearance screens to shape your player into an NFL star. Become the next Barry Sanders, develop a deep threat receiver, or create the next impact defensive enforcer.

On the Build screen, you can fine-tune your player's appearance. Go for the ripped, broad-shouldered look, or be a fat and flabby nightmare.

The Equipment screen lets you customize your player's gear. You can change things such as ankle tape, eye paint, elbow pads, and more. Make your guys look unique.

The Attributes section is where you set your player's skill level. Max out all your attributes to become the greatest of all time. Or go for a realistic mix and create some of the rookies of tomorrow. Put yourself in the game and see how you do as an NFL start.

Create a Team



If you want to put a team in your own city, this is the place to go. Choose the logo, nickname, city, state, abbreviation, and team rosters for your new team.

On the Design Stadium screen, you can build your stadium from the ground up. Add tunnels, extra seating, sky boxes, and even make it a dome. When the stadium is finished, advance to the Uniform Editor and design your team's apparel. You can go with a classic look or light up the field with a crazy color mix.

Create a Playbook



This feature is for all the would-be offensive and defensive coordinators of the world. Scheme and devise a playbook with all of your favorite go-to plays. Or start with a playbook and edit it to your liking.

The first step is to create a formation. You have complete control over the placement of each player. Using the grid, place each player in the starting point for your formation. When you're happy with the formation, you're prompted to rename it.

When you're finished with the play, test it against randomly selected offensive or defensive formations. If you spot bugs or weak spots in the play, go back to the drawing board and tweak it up.

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Historic Teams

Back again are Historic Teams. You can play All-Star Teams for each franchise, or dip into some of the greatest teams of all time. You get some right out of the box, but others you have to unlock with Madden Cards. They allow you to play "what if" type games. Go back in time and play some of the greatest games ever. The players do not have their actual names, but you can edit them if you want optimum realism.



NEW FEATURES

Gameplay

• **Run to Daylight New Blocking Control**	Take control of the blockers and pave the way for your running back.
• **Highlight Stick**	Bust the tackle or duck and jump the defender all together.
• **User-Controlled Broken Tackles**	The user is given more control to try to get that extra yard.
• **Preplay Menu**	Now EA SPORTS gives you visual hints on the screen to help you with your preplay selections.
• **User Feedback**	New banners overlay the gameplay to keep you up to speed with key moments in the game.
• **Spectacular Catches**	Players with high ratings can unlock special catches.
• **Throw Ball Away**	All new mechanic allows you to dump the ball while still in the pocket.

NFL Superstar Hall of Fame Mode

• **Superstar Cameras**	You now play the game from the perspective of your Superstar player.
• **Hall of Fame Mode**	Can you become a Hall of Famer? Now you have the chance with new features such as Roles, Ego, and Influence.

Franchise

• **Roles**	Special roles allow your player to influence his team and make the players around him better.
• **New NFL Draft Additions**	Including a College All-Star Game, New Scouting System, and Intelligent Off-season Cut logic.

Other New Features

• **Unlockable Hall of Fame Teams**	You can unlock AFC and NFC Hall of Fame teams to play with in Play Now mode.
• **Online Clubs**	TBA
• **Team Specific Defensive Playbooks**	All new playbooks for *Madden NFL 07*. Teams now have playbooks based on the plays they run on defense in real life.

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OFFENSIVE STRATEGY

Note: *All control commands are performed with the Xbox Controller.*

RUN TO DAYLIGHT

One of the biggest complaints over the past years has been that the running game is not very exciting. This year EA SPORTS decided to do something about that by introducing "Run to Daylight." You now have total control of every aspect of the running game. Instead of just controlling the ball carrier, you now can take control of the fullback, tight end, or offensive linemen. You can open and create holes for the ball carrier to run through.

While in control of the blocker, you have all sorts of blocking moves at your disposal. If you want to cut block a defender down, no problem, it's in the game. After you finish knocking defenders to the turf, you can switch to the ball carrier and perform innovative rushing moves that have never been seen in a video football game before.

All-new jukes, cutbacks, and the distinct running styles of your favorite backs will help you pound the opposition into the ground. In this section, we cover all the new Run to Daylight features so you are up to speed once you start playing.

Lead Blocking Control

How many times have you seen the CPU-controlled fullback miss his block and leave you dead in the backfield? You would have made the block, right? You now have the option to take control of any blocker to spring the running back loose with "Lead Blocking Control."

Before actually getting on the field, first decide which Blocking Control options you want to use. To get to the Blocking Control options, pause the game, then go to Settings and choose Game Play. Next pick Blocking Control.

There you find four options. Each setting has a different effect on how the game plays. Each setting can be toggled on/off. We have listed these four settings, plus a brief description of how they affect your game.

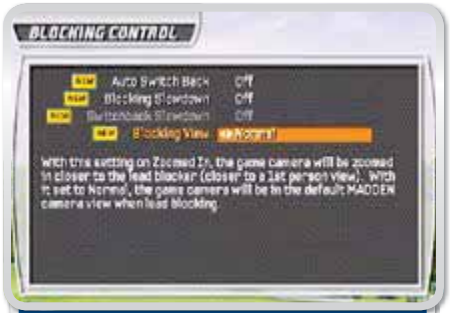


- **Auto Switch Back** (off by default). When this setting is turned on and you are in control of the blocker, you automatically switch to the ball carrier if a successful block is thrown. If the setting is turned off, you can control the lead blocker for as long as you like, but you must hit the switch player button to take control of the ball carrier.

- **Blocking Slowdown** (off by default). With this turned on, the game slows down momentarily when the user-controlled lead blocker engages a defender and triggers a block. With this turned off, the game speed does not change even if you connect on a crushing block.

- **Switch Slowdown** (on by default). With this turned on, the game slows down momentarily when you switch from the lead blocker back to the ball carrier. With this turned off you instantly switch to the ball carrier with no slowdown at all.

- **Blocking View** (Zoomed In is on by default). With this setting on Zoom In, the game camera is zoomed in closer to the lead blocker (closer to a first-person view). With it set to Normal, the game camera is in the default camera view when lead blocking.



Blocking Control Settings

Here are the Blocking Control settings we personally prefer:

- **Auto Switch Back** — off
- **Blocking Slowdown** — off
- **Switch Slowdown** — off
- **Blocking View** — normal

We like these settings the best because they don't interfere with the gameplay much. If Blocking View is zoomed in, it's harder to keep an eye on the ball carrier. Sometimes we didn't see where the ball carrier was going, because he was off the screen.

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Once on the field, you have the option to choose any player on the field to block with outside of the quarterback and running back. Tap the cycle blockers button on your controller to switch players. You can also hold the button down and move the Left Thumbstick or D-pad up/down or left/right to move through players. In the screen shot we selected the left guard. In the second screen shot, we decide to cycle through until we select the fullback.



After the ball is snapped, we control the fullback and look to make the key block to spring the ball carrier. The free safety is closing in on our ball carrier, so we decide he needs to be blocked. We throw a block on the free safety and he is knocked to the ground.



At this point we can either switch to the ball carrier or we can continue to stay in control of the blocker by pressing nothing. We choose to stay in control of the blocker and throw another block on a linebacker. This allows the CPU-controlled ball carrier to find daylight outside.







Lead Blocking Control Tips

• If you want to take control of the ball carrier and pretend you are going to block with him before the snap, you can. As soon as the ball is snapped, you switch from blocker to ball carrier automatically.

• If you decide to call a pass play, you can still take control of a player to block with before the snap. This is a good way to bluff your opponent into thinking run. As soon as the ball is snapped, you are automatically switched to the quarterback.

• Taking control of pulling offensive linemen seems to be more beneficial than taking control of the offensive linemen who do not pull. When we take control of offensive linemen who don't pull, we normally end up blocking the defender lined up across from us. We might as well just let the CPU-controlled offensive linemen do that and instead take control of the fullback to lead him through the hole unless you want to Turn Block Left or Right.

• Don't get yourself out of position to get the block. If you feel like you are losing control of the blocker, switch to the ball carrier and let the CPU take control of the blocker.

• On the other hand, if you see the CPU-controlled ball carrier not going through the correct hole, switch off the blocker quickly and take control of the ball carrier to get him to go through the open hole.

• You cannot switch back and forth between the blocker and ball carrier more than once. Once you switch to the ball carrier, all run blocking controls are turned off and run controls are turned on.

• Use the sprint button to get the blocker out in front quicker. This works best with a pulling offensive linemen or fullback who is lead blocking to the outside.

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Types of Blocks

Being able to take control of the blocker is good and all, but what about being able to throw different types of blocks? There are several ways to throw blocks in *Madden NFL 07* while in control of the blocker.

Type of Block	Description	
• Impact Block Move the Right Thumbstick up	The blocker delivers a devastating block that normally lays the defender out on the turf.	
• Cut Block Move the Right Thumbstick down	The blocker goes for the knees to chop the defender down.	
• Turn Block Left Press the White button on Xbox	Turns the blocker left.	
• Turn Block Right Press the Black button on Xbox	Turns the blocker right.	
• Hold Pull the Left Trigger	Holds the defender or pulls him down to the ground. Be careful not to overuse this button or you'll get flagged for a penalty.	

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Highlight Stick

The Truck Stick was introduced in *Madden NFL 06*. This allowed the user-controlled ball carrier to run over defenders by moving the Right Thumbstick up. For big, powerful running backs such as Jamal Lewis, this was great because it enabled him to knock over smaller defenders. However, for smaller running backs such as Warrick Dunn, the Truck Stick was not that much of a factor. They didn't have the strength or break tackle ratings to effectively use it.

EA SPORTS has decided to make the stick work for both types of backs. Instead of the Truck Stick, it's now called the Highlight Stick.

If the running back is a big bruising type, he runs the defenders over as in *Madden NFL 06*. If the running back is smaller, he looks to work around the defender.

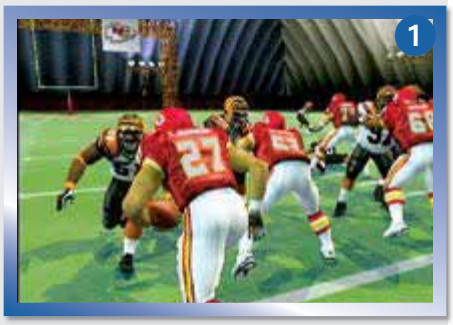
There are 20 different animations for the big running backs and 20 different animations for smaller running backs. Chances are you will see several different types of Highlight Stick animations when playing *Madden NFL 07*. This helps to keep the running game looking fresh.

What follows are two examples of how the Highlight Stick can be effective depending on what type of running back is used:

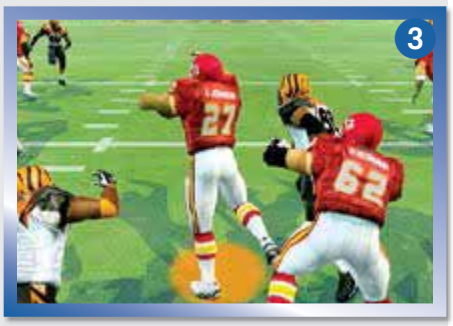
TIP!

Some backs, such as Shaun Alexander and LaDainian Tomlinson can perform both big and small running animations. These types of backs are most effective because they can do all the moves to avoid being brought down.

Example A: Chiefs' running back Larry Johnson is about to be tackled at the line of scrimmage by the Bengals' defender. By moving the Right Thumbstick up, Johnson lowers his shoulders and knocks the defender out of the way. Instead of being tackled for no gain, Johnson picks up another 4 yards before being brought down. EA SPORTS wanted to make the game fun when picking up even a few yards. Thanks to the Highlight Stick, they have succeeded.



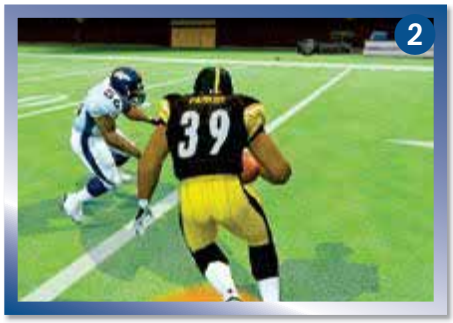






Example B: Steelers' running back Willie Parker is lightning fast and is great at making tacklers miss in the open the field. In the screen shot, the Broncos' defender is closing in on Parker. Last year, he would have been tackled for a loss, but thanks to the Highlight Stick, he can use his elusiveness to turn a loss into positive yardage.









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User-Controlled Broken Tackles

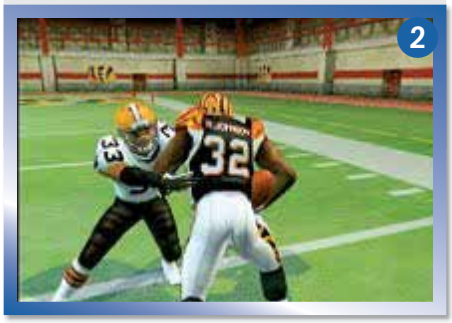
Another new weapon that was added to *Madden NFL 07* is the ability for the user to break tackles. By rapidly pressing the sprint button while the ball carrier is being tackled, you can get free of the defender and get more yardage. Obviously a ball carrier with a high break tackle rating has a better chance of busting loose than a ball carrier with a lesser rating. Eight different types of random animation can occur while the ball carrier is trying to get out of the defender's grasp.

Before you get too excited about this feature, keep in mind that the user-controlled defender has a similar ability. By rapidly tapping down on the tackle button, the defender can bring down the ball carrier in a hurry.

Ratings also come into play. For example, if the ball carrier's break tackle rating is higher than the defender's tackle rating, then the ball carrier has a better chance to break the tackle even if both users are button pressing at the same speed. Conversely, if the tackle rating of the defender is higher than the break tackle rating of the ball carrier, he has a better chance to make the tackle even if both users are pressing at the same rate.

In the screen shots, we are in control of Bengals' running back Rudi Johnson. The Browns defender is closing in. As we are about to be tackled, we start rapidly tapping the sprint button. We break the tackle and continue down the field.







Top Five HB / FB Combos

With "Run to Daylight" being the big new gameplay feature in *Madden NFL 07*, we thought we would take a look at the game's top-five HB/FB combinations. We came up with the list by looking at yardage totals and player ratings.

When ranking the fullbacks, we did not base them on overall rating. Instead we looked at run blocking and awareness. These two key attributes determine how good a fullback is at blocking.

The top five HB/FB combinations are as follow:



1. San Diego Chargers

HB: *LaDainian Tomlinson*

FB: *Lorenzo Neal*

Over the last three seasons Tomlinson and Neal have been the best HB/FB combination in the league. During that three-year span, Neal has opened holes for Tomlinson to the tune of 4,315 yards and 48 touchdowns. Neal is unquestionably the best blocking fullback in the game and Tomlinson is one of the top three running backs. When you put them together in the same backfield, defenses have a hard time defending the Charger rushing attack.



2. Seattle Seahawks

HB: *Shaun Alexander*

FB: *Mack Strong*

You could argue that the backfield combination of halfback Shaun Alexander and fullback Mack Strong is a better tandem than Tomlinson and Neal.

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That argument has plenty of evidence to back it up. Over the last seven seasons, Alexander has rushed for more than 7,817 yards and 89 touchdowns. Strong does an excellent job at delivering bone-crushing blocks to give Alexander daylight to pick up yardage.



3. New York Giants

HB: *Tiki Barber*

FB: *Jim Finn*

Tiki Barber has been terrorizing defenses since he came into the league in 1997. However, over the last three seasons his totals have taken a dramatic rise because of underrated fullback Jim Finn. He does not get many touches, nor is talked about as being one of the best blocking fullbacks in the game. With that said, Finn paved the way for Barber's career-high 1,860 yards and 5.2 yard average.



4. Cincinnati Bengals

HB: *Rudi Johnson*

FB: *Jeremi Johnson*

This next HB/FB combination does not get talked about much, but when you look at the stats, you can see why we rank them number four on our list. Fullback Jeremi Johnson does his work unnoticed. If you look at Rudi Johnson's rushing numbers over the last three seasons, his rushing average and rushing totals have gone up yearly. One of the key reasons for that is that Jeremi Johnson has been opening plenty of holes for Rudi Johnson to rush through.



5. Buffalo Bills

HB: *Willis McGahee*

FB: *Daimon Shelton*

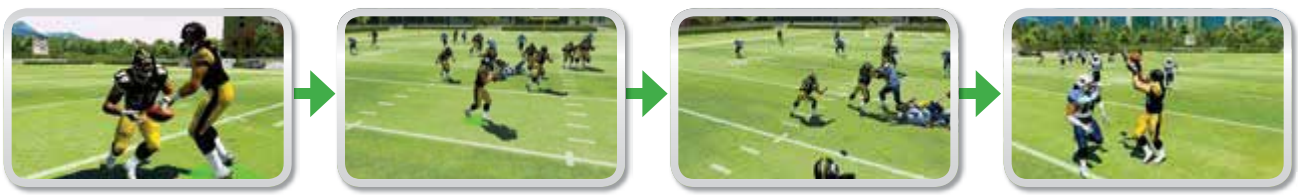
The Bills offense as a whole has not been that productive lately, but the rushing game is not to blame. Halfback Willis McGahee and fullback Daimon Shelton have been a strong combination over the last two seasons. McGahee has rushed for 2,375 yards and 18 touchdowns. A large part of that yardage and touchdown total has been because Shelton has been leading McGahee through 8- and 9-man fronts.

Offensive Trick Plays • Part 1

In Super Bowl XL Pittsburgh ran a wide receiver reverse to former speedy Steelers receiver Antwaan Randle El, but he had no intention of running the ball. Instead Randle El pulled up and threw a 43-yard touchdown strike to Hines Ward, who was left wide open deep down the field. This trick play gave the Steelers a 21-10 and the momentum they needed to eventually win the Super Bowl. In *Madden NFL 07*, there are several different types of trick plays that you can call to keep the defense on its toes. Just don't get too carried away, after all they are not designed to be base plays. Here we take a look at three of our favorite trick plays in the game. You will find all three of them in the Pittsburgh Steelers playbook.

I Form-Twin WR Flea Flicker

One of the oldest trick plays in the book is the Flea Flicker. The quarterback hands off the ball the halfback. He then acts as if he is going to run a HB Dive. Just as he gets to the line of scrimmage, the halfback tosses the ball back to the quarterback. If the safeties bite, thinking run, one or two receivers deep should be open for a big play. We look for the Hines Ward running a wheel route deep down the left sideline. Ward makes the catch for a 25 yard pick up.



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Running Game Controls

Several new moves and animations have been added this year to improve the running game. With all of these new moves and animations, this year's *Madden NFL Football* running game is the strongest the series has ever seen. By throwing in the new Highlight Stick, formations, plays, and packages that can be used, you shouldn't find it too hard to establish a solid rushing attack in *'07*.

Before we get to some of the different types of run plays that are in the game, we need to get you up to speed on the new and old game controls. Jukes, stiff arms, Sprint, cover up, and dive buttons are important controls to learn if you want your rushing attack to succeed.

Cover Up





If your ball carrier is having a problem coughing up the ball whenever he is hit, learn to use the cover up button. Chances are if the ball carrier covers up the ball, it will not be stripped or knocked out of his hands. Another advantage of using the cover up button is he lowers his shoulders and often knocks defenders over. It's not as effective as the Highlight Stick when it comes to breaking tackles, but it's safer to use because the ball carrier tends to keep the rock off the turf.

Dive



An old school *Madden NFL Football* running move is the dive. Whenever you need to pick up that extra yard for a first down or to get across the goal line, the dive button is the one to use. Use when the quarterback is about to be tackled, too. Tap the dive button, and instead of taking a vicious hit from the defender, the quarterback slides to the ground. Or do this if the receiver has the ball and you don't want him to get hurt.

Juke Move









In *Madden NFL 05*, it seemed like every top player was using the juke move to dominate the opposition online and in the *Madden* Challenge. In *Madden NFL 06*, the juke move was not nearly as effective because it was toned down. In *Madden NFL 07*, the juke move is back with a vengeance because of the sheer number of animations that can be pulled off. For example by pressing left and right quickly on the Right Thumbstick, the ball carrier performs a devastating Double Move that leaves defenders grasping at air.

The back juke is back in *Madden NFL 07*. This juke move was not used as much as some of the other jukes, but if you do it at the right time, defenders will miss-time their tackle. This especially holds true when a player is in control of the defender and hits the hit stick or tackle button.

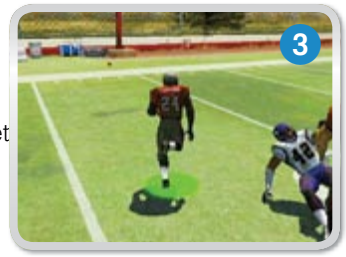
Another juke animation move we have seen is the ability to slash through the open holes inside. In previous versions of *Madden NFL Football*, using the juke move inside tackles did not always provide positive results. Often the ball carrier would get stuck behind offensive linemen and could not pick up yardage. Thanks to the ability to slash through the line of scrimmage by pressing softly left or right on the Right Thumbstick, you now can slash the ball carrier between offensive linemen to pick up positive yardage with ease.

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Sprint







The Sprint button is by far the most-used rushing control. Whether you are running outside to escape defenders or running the ball inside to get through the hole quickly, you can bet that Sprint is being used. The key to using the Sprint button is knowing the proper time to use it. For example, if you are running some type of counter play to the outside, don't use the Sprint button too early or you risk overlapping your pulling guard.

If you do, it defeats the whole purpose of the guard pulling outside to be your lead blocker. Another factor to consider when using the Sprint button is maneuverability. Whenever the Sprint is held down, you lose some ability to move your ball carrier. It may not seem significant, but when you are trying to make a quick cut, that lack of maneuverability can mean the difference between picking up a few yards or taking the rock to the house for a score.

One last consideration is fatigue. The more the Sprint button is used, the quicker the ball carrier gets tired. If you have a running back with a high stamina rating, this may not be a big deal. But if your running back has a low stamina rating and his backup is not very good, it can have a negative effect on the running games.

TIP!

Overusing the Sprint button applies to all positions. It's just more prevalent with the running backs, because they tend to get the ball the most.

Spin Move





The spin move has always been one of the most efficient running moves in *Madden NFL Football* to pick up yardage. By learning when to use it, you can turn what looks to be a short gain into something that makes the evening sports newscast.

This year you can perform two different types of spin moves. Tap down on the spin button for a quick spin move. The ball carrier spins quickly around and often put the defender(s) out of position to make the tackle. The drawback of using the quick spin is if the defender is not fooled, he can make the tackle. The power spin (press and hold the spin button) takes the ball carrier longer to spin around, but he has a better chance of breaking the tackle even if the defender is in position to make the tackle. Learn when to use each type of spin move and you will be racking up yardage with the best of them.

Stiff Arm







The stiff arm has been in the *Madden NFL Football* series for long time. For all of you old school veterans who have played it before the juke and spin move were added to the game, you know the stiff arm was used the most outside of the Sprint. Ball carriers with high break tackle ratings benefit the most from a well-timed stiff arm. If it's performed correctly, the ball carrier puts his non-football-carrying hand out and shoves the would-be tackler to the turf. To throw a stiff arm, press left or right on the stiff arm buttons.

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RUNNING INSIDE

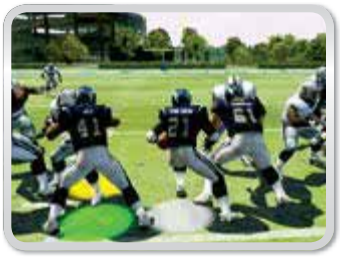
One of the biggest improvements that EA SPORTS wanted to achieve in *Madden NFL 07* was the ability to the run ball inside with success. With all the new running enhancements that have been added, they have achieved that goal.

Being able pound the rock inside is a must for success in *Madden NFL 07*. You may not have much success with it in the earlier stages of the game, but if you stick with it, by the end of the game the defense will wear down. You will start to notice your running back picking up more chunks of yardage. Nothing is more satisfying in football than knowing you have the defense back on its heels because it has no way of stopping the pound inside.

In this section, we take a look some of our favorite inside plays from the Chargers' playbook.

I-Form-Normal HB Blast





Outside of the HB Slam, the HB Blast is probably the second-most-used running play from the I-Form-Normal in the game. The play is designed for the halfback to follow the fullback through the hole between the left guard and left tackle. We like to take control of the fullback before the snap and lead the halfback through. If any defender gets in our way, we plow him over. In the first screen, we control the fullback, while the CPU controls the halfback. In the second screen shot, we make a key block on the middle linebacker, which springs the halfback through the line of scrimmage for a big gain.

Singleback-Flex Base HB Dive

The Singleback-Flex Base is a pretty cool formation to call plays from. It is very flexible with its personnel sets and motion. A good inside run play from the Singleback-Flex Base is the HB Dive. This play has the halfback looking to run between the center and right guard without a lead blocker. However, if we want to have a lead blocker for the halfback, we can motion the fullback to the right. He now lines up in the backfield to be the lead blocker. Once the ball is snapped, we look to follow the fullback through the hole. We use the highlight stick to slide through the line of scrimmage and find open daylight to pick up positive yardage.

Strong-Normal Split Belly

This play works best against player controlled defenders who like to cheat when we are in control of the fullback before and after the snap. We use the fullback as a decoy to fool the user controlled defender. If you look at the play diagram, you'll notice the fullback blocks to the outside on the left side of the offensive line. A player may think we are running some type of counter play and follow us out. The Titans won in Indianapolis, 19-16. He takes himself right out of position to make the tackle on the ball carrier because the play design has the halfback running the ball between the center and right guard.

Split Backs-3WR FB Blast





There are a fair number of run plays where the fullback gets the handoff instead of the halfback. Almost all of these plays have the fullback running inside for tough yardage. A fullback running play we like from the Chargers' playbook is the Split Backs-3WR FB Blast. This play forces the defense to take a defender out of the box to cover the slot receiver. If the defense comes out in some type of 4-3 defense, the left outside linebacker will have to move to cover the slot. With him out of the box, there is one less defender we have to deal with. Another benefit of having the left outside linebacker out of the box is that the design of the play has the fullback running between the right guard and right tackle. That's where the left outside linebacker would line up if there wasn't a receiver in the slot. Once the ball is snapped, look to bust through the hole. If you can get past the defensive linemen, there will be plenty of room to run the fullback for a nice chunk of yardage.

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RUNNING OUTSIDE

Having a fast running back who can get to the outer perimeter quickly is the key ingredient to having a successful outside running attack. It also requires some stick skill and knowledge on how to set up blocks with your blockers. If you don't have speed, stick, and knowledge, it becomes a serious challenge to establish an outside running game on the higher difficulty levels. In this section we give you some tips and plays that will hopefully improve your perimeter run game.

Full House-Normal Wide HB Sweep





The Full House-Normal Wide HB Sweep is a highly effective run play to call to get the halfback outside. What makes this outside run play so successful is the blocks thrown by the right guard and fullback. Another key block is the receiver lined up outside on the right. He must be able to hold the cornerback across from him for the play to have any success. In the first screen shot, notice the receiver outside makes the block on the left cornerback. The right guard is pulling outside and looking to block the defender who first gets into his area. In the second screen shot, the right guard makes a block on a linebacker. This allows us to bust our halfback into the open field for big pickup on the ground.

Misdirection and Draw Plays

During the 2006 season, misdirection plays saw a huge improvement in how the run blocking sets up. It seemed like every other play was some type of misdirection run play online. In previous years that just wasn't the case. Because offensive linemen did not block correctly, these types of run plays were a non-factor in most players' offensive playbooks. In *Madden NFL 07*, the blocking is better than ever, making misdirection run plays a great choice when running the ball.

The run blocking on draws and delays has been improved over the last two seasons. The offensive line will sell the pass to the defense and defenders will abandon their run pursuit to come after the quarterback. Just as the defenders close in on the quarterback, he hands the ball off to a running back that squirts up the middle for a nice gain. In this section, we take a look at a few of our favorite misdirection and draw plays.

Singleback-Normal Slot HB Slant 18

Many of the top players at the *Madden* Challenge found this outside run play a solid bet to call when needing to pick up yardage in clutch situations. The center crack blocks to the right and looks to seal off the middle linebacker. The right guard pulls to right side of the field and paves the way for our halfback. We sometimes take control of the right guard before the snap to make sure we get to any defender who comes in the area of the CPU-controlled halfback. Once we make the block, we switch to the halfback. With the receivers all acting as if they are running pass routes deep down the field, we normally find only one defender left to deal with. That's when the highlight stick comes in handy.

I-Form-Twin TE FB FK HB Toss









This play could have been in the outside run section, but we decided to stick it in the misdirection section instead. This play has been successful the last couple of seasons, especially against man coverage. Often the defenders will bite on the fake to the fullback, freeing the halfback to take a toss from the quarterback going to the opposite direction. With the defenders going in the wrong direction, there is plenty of room for the halfback to find running room.

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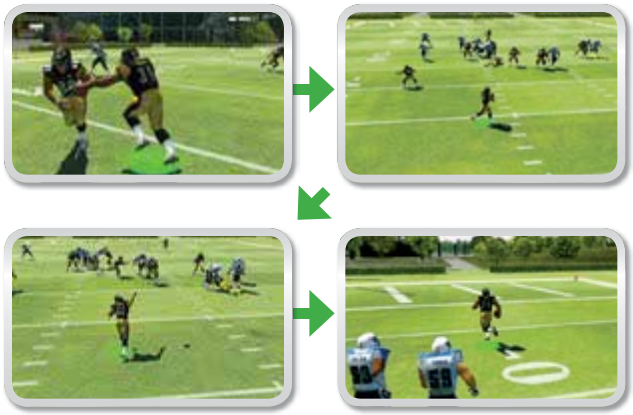
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Offensive Trick Plays • Part 2

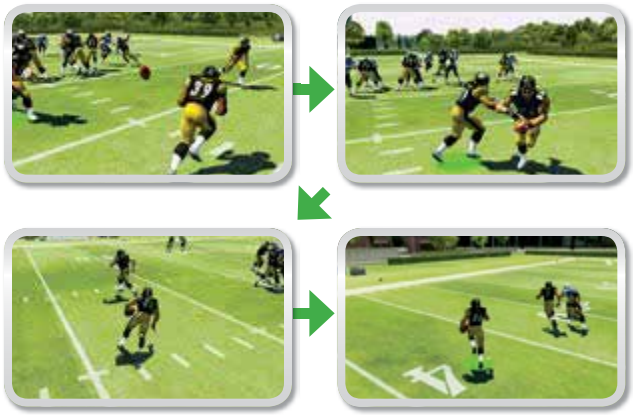
I Form-Twin WR Reverse Pass

This play has the same concept as the one the Steelers ran in Super Bowl XL. This play has Steelers receivers Hines Ward and Cedrick Wilson lined up on the left side. Ward is running a deep crossing route. Wilson is the receiver who will be throwing the ball. Once the ball is snapped, the quarterback hands the ball off to the halfback, and then he pitches the ball to Wilson running the reverse. If the safeties think run, they will come up to pursue Wilson. This is when its time to look for Ward deep down the field for a big play. Ward makes the catch and goes in for six points.



Singleback-Trips Bunch WR Reverse

This is a pretty effective trick play provided that the receiver running the reverse has the speed to get outside and the play is called against the right defense. The quarterback tosses the ball to the running back going to the right side. Hines Ward then takes the handoff as the running back looks to run to the left side. The quarterback and the split end will be out in front to block for Ward.



Weak I-Normal Toss Weak

Running to the outside on the weak side often works better than running to the outside on the strong side because the defense tends to cheat to the side of the tight end. The Weak I-Normal Toss Weak is one of the weak side run plays we found that does a great job of picking up yardage on the ground. When running this play, we like to take control of the fullback and block the right outside linebacker or free safety. If the right outside linebacker is blocked, we then look to block the free safety. This springs the halfback into the open field where we take control of him and go in for the score.

Singleback-Big Twin TE Counter Weak

This counter play works best against man coverage because two tight ends line up opposite the play call. The defense usually cheats its defenders toward the two tight ends, leaving the backside running lanes wide open for the taking. We like to take control of the pulling right guard before the snap. Once the ball is snapped, we use the Sprint button to get him quickly out in front of the running back. The receiver lined up on the left draws his man deep down the field, leaving only the free safety for us to deal with. We can pancake the smaller defender, and the running back has plenty of open field real estate ahead of him.

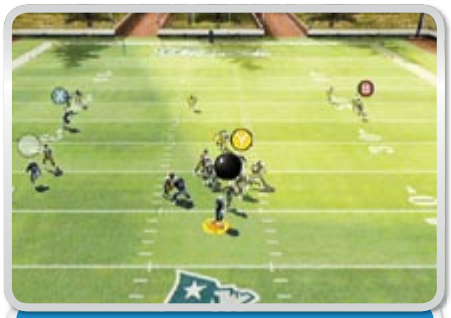
Shotgun-4WR HB Mid Draw



This is a good draw play to run in third down passing situations when the defense is thinking the offense is about to air it out. The quarterback drops back in the gun as if he is going to pass, but as the defense closes in on the quarterback, he hands off to the halfback. Don't hit the Sprint right away. Instead allow the blocking to develop and then look for the best hole to run through. Once the halfback gets to the line of scrimmage, hit the gas. Expect 4-6 yards if you call it against the right defense.

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QB Vision Cone



The QB Vision Cone

When the QB Vision Cone was added in *Madden NFL 06*, it received mixed reviews from the casual and hard-core players. The players who didn't like it were upset because they were forced to use it in the Madden Challenge and online rank games because it was turned on by default. (Note: QB Vision is ON by default in All-Madden difficulty)

They had a hard time getting used to moving the cone around while looking for the open receiver. Those who liked it felt it simulated what it is like to be a real NFL quarterback.



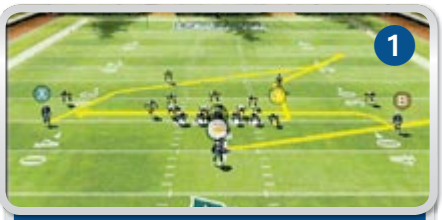
How to Turn It On (Xbox example)

The QB Vision Cone is back again, but this time it's not turned on by default. Instead it can be turned on by the following ways:

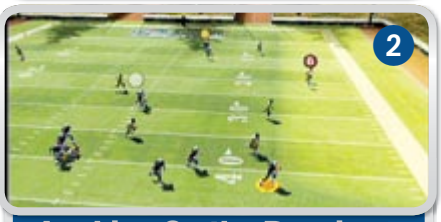
- Go to the game play settings and turn it on.
- Turn it on during actual game play by switching the primary receiver before the snap (optional setting must be turned on).
- Press down on any receiver's pass icon and pull the Right Trigger after the ball is snapped (optional setting must be turned on).
- Press the Right Thumbstick left or right after the ball is snapped (optional setting must be turned on).

How the Vision Cone Works

Once the QB Vision Cone has been activated, there are two ways to move the cone around on the field. (a) Hold down the Right Trigger and then press the receiver's pass icon to lock the passing cone on the receiver. (b) Use the Right Thumbstick and direct the passing cone to the area you want throw ball to. Of those two ways, the Trigger is the most accurate way to direct the Vision Cone.



Pressing the Snap Button



Locking On the Receiver

QB Vision Cone Tips

- Learn to use the Vision Cone to influence how safeties play pass coverage. Often they will follow the cone. Lock on to a receiver, then as the safeties go to cover the receiver, switch the cone to another receiver and make the throw. This is really effective when one receiver is running a post route and another receiver is running a corner. Lock on to the receiver running the post first, then once the safeties go cover him, switch to the receiver running the corner route and make the throw.
- Hold the Right Trigger down the whole time that you are looking for the open receiver and reading the pass coverages. This allows you to select the receiver more quickly.
- Different skill levels determine how big the QB's Vision Cone will be. When playing on Rookie level, the QB's Vision Cone is considerably bigger than on All Madden.
- The QB Vision Cone does not affect short pass route such as flats, slants, drags, and quick outs. This means you can throw the ball to a receiver without the Vision Cone on them, without sacrificing too much accuracy.
- You can center the QB Vision Cone before the snap by holding down the Right Trigger and pressing the snap button. Once you do this, there won't be a primary receiver highlighted when the ball is snapped. (1)
- When rolling out with the quarterback with the Sprint button pushed down, the Vision Cone will not lock on to a receiver. Instead it goes toward the sideline. You need to release the Sprint button, then lock on to a receiver to make the throw. It takes a few seconds for the Vision Cone to move to your receiver. Those few seconds may not be enough time to make the throw without being sacked. (2)

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1 R Trigger

Strengths

• Allows the user-controlled quarterback to lock on to a receiver without having to move the Right Thumbstick.
• Works better than the Right Thumbstick when the quarterback's Vision Cone is not very wide.
• Easier to move the quarterback while in the pocket.
• Lessens the learning curve for the Vision Cone.

Weaknesses

• Takes longer to throw the ball. The user must press the intended receiver's pass icon to lock on, and then press it again to make the pass.
• The user cannot get rid of the ball as quickly on short passes after the snap as compared to when the Right Thumbstick is used.
• Not much of a challenge for hard-core players.

2 Right Thumbstick

Strengths

• Allows the user to scan the field for the open receiver without holding the Right Trigger.
• You have a better chance to beat the blitz because you don't have to push the pass receiver's pass icon twice to throw the ball.
• Works best with high awareness QBs because their cones are bigger.

Weaknesses

• Harder to lock on to a specific receiver.
• Quarterbacks with lower awareness ratings have smaller Vision Cones, thus making it almost impossible to establish a consistent passing game.
• Moving the quarterback while trying to aim the Vision Cone with the Right Thumbstick is very difficult.
• Too difficult for casual gamers to get comfortable with.
• If the user releases the button too soon before throwing to a targeted receiver a pump fake is automatically triggered.

Strengths & Weaknesses

The Right Trigger VS. The Right Tumbstick

Hopefully this section will give you a clear-cut idea of what QB Vision Cone style suits you best. Keep in mind that in *Madden NFL 07*, you don't have to use the QB Vision Cone to pass the ball. If you want to go back to the conventional way of throwing the ball, you can. The biggest difference between the QB Vision Cone and conventional way is you get a slight accuracy boost when using the QB Vision Cone.

Percision Passing

In *Madden NFL 06*, QB Precision Placement was added to the so that user-controlled QBs could place the ball more accurately. To use QB Precision Placement, the Vision Cone had to be turned on. In *Madden NFL 07* Precision Placement is back, but this year, the QB Vision Cone does not need to be turned on for the user-controlled quarterback to use it.

There are four ways to throw the ball to a receiver when using the QB Precision Placement: high, low, outside, or inside. Each has its strengths and weaknesses. In this section, we take a look at the four of them.

TIP!

No matter which direction the ball is thrown when using the QB Precision Placement, the harder you press down in the direction you want the ball to go, the more the pass will lead the receiver.



High Pass

Press up on either the D-pad or Left Thumbstick to throw a highpass.

The most effective way to throw the ball with QB Precision Placement. *In Madden NFL 06*, it seemed like everyone was throwing the high pass to tall receivers and completing them with a high rate of success. In *Madden NFL 07*, the high pass has been toned down some. It's still highly effective against man coverage, but not nearly as effective against zone coverage. Defenders in zone coverage do a much better job of defending the high pass in *Madden NFL 07* than they did in *Madden NFL 06*.

Strengths

• Great against man coverage.
• Gets the ball over the top of the defensive linemen where they cannot knock it down.
• Good for throwing the deep lob pass.

Weaknesses

• Is not nearly as effective as it was in *Madden NFL 06* against zone coverage.
• Quarterbacks with low accuracy ratings tend to sail the ball over the top of receivers. If a defender is behind the receiver, there's a good chance the pass will be picked off.

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Low Pass

Press down on the D-pad or Left Thumbstick to throw a low pass.

Most players did not use the low pass in *Madden NFL 06* because the high pass was so effective. That's not to say the low pass does not have its uses in *Madden NFL 07*, because it does.

Strengths

• Keeps the ball low where only the receiver can go get it.

Weaknesses

• The quarterback needs a clear throwing lane to make the throw. If the low pass is made with a defensive lineman in the throwing lane, the pass may be knocked down.
• The receiver often has to come back to make the catch. For instance if you need 8 yards for first down, you may not get it because of the receiver comes back 2 yards to catch the low pass.



Outside Pass

By pressing the left or right on the D-pad or Left Thumbstick, the receiver is led outside where only he can make the catch.

On routes where receivers run toward the sideline or flag, use the QB Precision Placement to throw the pass outside.

Strengths

• Use the outside pass when throwing to receivers running routes toward the sideline.

Weaknesses

• Quarterbacks with low accuracy ratings tend to lead the receiver too much. Often the receiver cannot get to the spot on time or a defender is in position to make the pick.



Inside Pass

By pressing the left or right on the D-pad or Left Thumbstick, the receiver is led inside where only he can make the catch.

The inside pass works the same as the outside pass when using the QB Precision Placement. The only difference is you lead the pass inside rather than to the outside.

Strengths

• Use the inside pass when throwing to receivers running routes toward the middle.

Weaknesses

• Quarterbacks with low accuracy ratings tend to lead the receiver too far inside. Often the receiver cannot get to the spot on time or a defender is in position to make the pick.

Spectacular Catch

EA SPORTS has added a new series of receiving animations called the Spectacular Catch feature. In order to perform a spectacular catch, your receiver must have at least an 88 CTH rating.

Several different animations make up this feature, but the most common one is the one-handed grab.

In this example we have Jeremy Shockey breaking down the middle on a streak route. We give him a high precision pass, and he does the rest of the job by going up for an amazing grab.

You won't see a ton of these types of catches in the game. They are a rare and very special occurrence, so enjoy them when you see them.



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Throw Ball Away





How many times in the game have you wanted to throw the ball away to avoid the sack, but couldn't because you would get flagged for intentional grounding? This year in *Madden NFL Football*, the developers at EA SPORTS decided it was time to give the user controlling the quarterback the option to throw the ball away while between the tackles.

If you feel pressured and cannot find any open receiver, you can press the throw away button and the quarterback will throw the ball into the ground somewhere on the field.

In the first screen shot, we are dropping Patriots' QB Tom Brady back in the pocket. There is a heavy pass rush from the left end and we cannot find any open receiver. In the second screen shot, we throw the ball into the ground and avoid the sack. We do not get penalized and huddle up to call another play. Doing the little things like this keeps drives alive and wins tight games. Be careful, if you are hit while throwing it away you can throw a duck and give up an easy interception.

TIP!

If you roll the quarterback out of the pocket and then decide to throw the ball away, he throws it out of bounds as in years past.

Smart Routes

Smart routes are back again for another season. They allow the user to change a receiver's pass route shorter or longer depending on where the first down marker/goal line is on the field.

To use a smart route, press the hot route button, then press the receiver's pass icon and press down on the Right Thumbstick. The receiver now runs a smart route.

For instance, say it's third down and 5 (1). The flanker is running a 12-yard in route. If the defense is blitzing, you may not have enough time to get the pass off to him. Instead of having him run the 12 yard in, you can smart route him and he now runs a 5 yard (2) in route just at the first down marker. Once you see him break open, (3) zip him the ball (4).

TIP!

Not all pass routes can be smart routed. Any route run by a running back cannot be smart routed even if he was sent in motion. You also cannot use smart routes on option routes. Hot route to something else and then smart route in this situation.









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Hot Routes and Playmaker Routes

Hot routes and playmaker pass routes have become a big part of every top player's offensive game plan around the country. You can run a complete offensive system based on hot routes and playmaker routes if you understand how each one works. A lot of players can run any type of offensive playbook because they know how to use hot routes and playmaker routes effectively. These players can call just about any play and still move the ball efficiently.

Hot Routes

Hot Route		How to Execute	Works Best Against
Streak		Hot Route Button + Up on D-pad	When the receiver is matched up with a slower defensive back in one-on-one coverage. Once the receiver gets a few steps on the defensive back, throw the ball.
Curl		Hot Route Button + Down on D-pad	When the defense is playing any type of man coverage. Once the receiver curls back, throw a high pass to him.
Out		Hot Route Button + Right on D-pad	When the defense plays soft zone. Once the receiver makes his cut toward the sideline, make the throw. Don't be late on the throw or it may be picked off.
In		Hot Route Button + Left on D-pad	When the defense plays any type of man coverage. Once the receiver breaks over the middle, make the throw.
Slant		Hot Route Button + L1 or R1 for PS2, Hot Route Button + L or R Trigger for Xbox	Blitzing defenses. Wait for the blitzing defender to vacate his area. Once he does, throw a high bullet pass if the receiver has inside position.
Pass Block		Hot Route Button + L2 or R2 for RBs and TEs for PS2, Hot Route Button + L or R Trigger for Xbox	When the defense has called a blitz.

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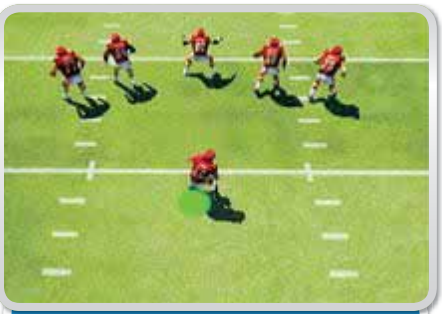
Playmaker Routes

Hot Route		How to Execute	Works Best Against
Fade		Hot Route Button + Right Thumbstick up for the receiver to run a fade	Defenses that are in bump-n-run man coverage. Look for the receiver once he breaks down the field. If you take control of the receiver as the ball is coming down, you can jump high for the ball if timed right.
Drag		Hot Route Button + Right Thumbstick right or left depending on where the receiver is lined up	Defenses that are in bump-n-run man coverage. Once the receiver breaks the jam, he often gets inside position on the defender. Once he does, make the throw.
Flat		Hot Route Button + Right Thumbstick right or left depending on where the receiver is lined up	Defenses that are playing soft zone coverage. If no receivers are open deep, look for the receiver in the flat.
Screen		Hot Route Button + Right Thumbstick down when the receiver is running the play's primary pass route	Defenses that are playing soft zone coverage. If no receivers are open deep, wait a few seconds and throw to the receiver running the screen.

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Slide Protection

Slide protection returns to *Madden NFL 07* this year. Here is a quick overview of how it works. Pressing the slide protection button allows you to adjust your pass protection schemes on the fly. Slide protection was put in the game to help counter the blitz in the passing game, but it can be used in the run game also. It may not always be effective, but in some run plays it can help create running lanes for the ball carrier. Below we take a look at the four protection adjustments that can be made.



Slide Protection Out

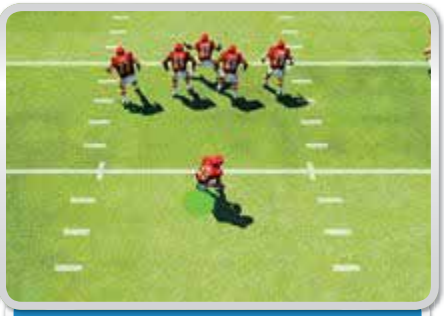
Press the slide protection button, and then press the D-pad or Left Thumbstick up. The offensive line will now pass protect out.

Strengths

- Puts the offensive line in a better position to counter the defensive line when it has been spread out.
- Good to use to respond when defense is showing blitz from the outside because the offensive line protects out.

Weaknesses

- The quarterback is at greater risk of being sacked from the inside pass rush.
- If the defense overloads the middle of the offensive line, the line won't be able to block all the pass rushers.



Slide Protection In

Press the slide protection button, and then press the D-pad or Left Thumbstick down. The offensive line will now pass protect in.

Strengths

- Puts the offensive line in a better position to counter the defensive line when it has been pinched in.
- If the defense overloads the middle of the offensive line, the offensive linemen can block all the pass rushers because they slide protect in.

Weaknesses

- The quarterback is at greater risk of being sacked from the outside pass rush.
- If the defense overloads the outside on both sides to blitz, the offensive linemen won't be able to block all the pass rushers because they slide protect in.



Slide Protection Left

Press the slide protection button, and then press the D-pad or Left Thumbstick left. The offensive line will now pass protect left.

Strengths

- Puts the offensive line in a better position to counter the blitz when the defense overloads the left side of the offensive line.
- Use if you plan on rolling the quarterback out to the right. It helps keep the backside pass rush off the quarterback.

Weaknesses

- The quarterback is not protected from the right side of the defensive line if the defense brings the blitz
- If the defense puts multiple defenders on the right side of the offensive line, don't use the slide protection left.



Slide Protection Right

Press the slide protection button, and then press the D-pad or Left Thumbstick right. The offensive line will now pass protect right.

Strengths

- Puts the offensive line in a better position to counter the blitz when the defense overloads the right side of the offensive line.
- Use if you plan on rolling the quarterback out to the left. It helps keep the backside pass rush off the quarterback.

Weaknesses

- The quarterback is not protected from the left side of the defensive line if the defense brings the blitz.
- If the defense puts multiple defenders on the left side of the offensive line, don't use the slide protection right.

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Pass Routes

With all the rushing enhancements that have been added to *Madden NFL 07*, you might forget the passing game. To be successful when throwing the ball, you need to know what each pass route's strengths and weaknesses are. The best way to learn pass routes is to spend time in practice mode (the lab). Run plays over and over just like a real quarterback does during training camp and through filmroom study. In this section of the book, we take a look at some of the different pass routes you will see in the game, and teach how to use them to perfection.

Short Pass Routes

Teams that run the West Coast Offense throw a lot of short pass routes. The quarterback must be able to make good reads and quick decisions. If he can do that, he can steadily move the offense down the field with high percentage passes and control the clock. Yards after the catch (YAC) are the key to running the short passing game. Once the receiver makes the catch, he can turn a short pass into a huge gain by using his speed and agility to pick up yardage. In this section we look at a few essential short pass routes that we feel are important to learn when running the short passing game.

Curl




Of all the short pass routes in the game, the curl route is the one you want to learn first. Against man coverage (even if bump-n-run is called) this is the most effective short pass route you can call. If you see that your opponent likes to play a lot of normal man coverage, do not hesitate to call plays that have receivers running curls or call a curl by hot routing a receiver. In *Madden NFL 06*, the curl route was almost as effective against zone coverage as man coverage as long as the ball was thrown high. In *Madden NFL 07*, the curl route is not as effective against zone coverage because defenders do a better job at defending the high pass. In this example, we show the receiver on the right running a 10-yard curl. The pass coverage called is man. Once the receiver curls back toward our quarterback, he gets separation on the defender covering him. After he does this, we throw him a bullet pass for 10-yard pickup. Hitches and hooks work similar to the curl route.

Drag




If your opponent likes to play bump-n-run man as his base coverage, then try running some plays that have a receiver running a drag route. This efficient pass route is low risk. The only downside of running the drag route is that defensive linemen tend to get their hands up and knock the ball down when you throw a bullet pass. If you are having that problem, try throwing a high precision pass so the ball has a higher trajectory and will go over the top of the defensive linemen. Also having a tall quarterback helps improve the chances of the ball clearing the defensive linemen. We'll give you an example of a good drag play from the New Orleans Saints' playbook. In the Singleback-Twin TE WR Drag, the receiver on the right runs a drag route from right to left. Against zone coverage, look for him as he breaks over the middle. If he gets open underneath the zone coverage, rifle him a fastball and then look to pick up yardage after the catch.

Flat Route




Whether it's a running back, tight end, or receiver who is running it, the flat route is one of more reliable pass routes in the entire game. It is a great check down route to beat the blitz or if nothing opens up deep down the field. It is also a good route to run in combination with the curl route. If the defense takes away the curl, the flat route is usually open. A good example of this play is the Singleback-Normal Curl Flats. Both outside receivers run curls, while the tight end and slot run flat routes. In the second screen shot, the outside receiver on the right is covered. However, the tight end running the flat route is not. We throw him the ball for a five yard pickup.

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Quick In




The quick in is a rock-solid pass route to call against any type of man coverage. The receiver runs straight up the field about five yards and then cuts toward the middle. Once the receiver breaks, he gets underneath the defender covering him. After he does, throw him a bullet pass. The receiver on the left has been hot routed to run a quick in route. The pass coverage is man. In the second screen shot, he breaks over the middle and we hit him in stride.

Quick Out




Just the opposite of the quick in is the quick out. Any team that runs the West Coast Offense will run this route several times during the game. All it takes is just one missed tackle to turn the play into something big. Just like the quick in, the receiver runs straight up the field for about five yards, but instead of cutting toward the middle, he cuts toward the sideline. If the quarterback makes the throw in time, it's one of the most difficult pass routes to defend.

Screen




A lot of teams that run the West Coast Offense use the screen to beat the blitz. The Packers and Eagles both do an excellent job at setting up screens to their backs to pick up yardage. A halfback screen play we like to call is the Shotgun-Normal Saints HB Screen. Roll the quarterback away from where the screen pass is being set up. That draws defenders away from the play side. At the last second, throw the ball to the halfback where there are two offensive linemen out in front to block for him.

Short Slant




The short (quick) slant is highly effective against both man and zone coverage. If the pass is timed perfectly to the intended receiver, it can be one of the most electrifying pass routes in the game. Once the receiver makes the catch in stride, he can often take it all the way to the house for six points. The key to making it work is not to throw it too early or too late. If it's thrown on time, it will net you first down after first down. If your opponent is bringing a heavy dose of blitz packages, call slant plays to keep him in check.

Slant Hook




This short pass route is also highly effective against both man and zone coverage because this route has two points where the ball can be thrown to the receiver. The first point is when the receiver is running the slant portion. Against man coverage, he is open for a bullet pass. The second point the ball can be thrown to him is when he runs the hook portion of the route. Against zone coverage, he often sits in front of the zone coverage. Once he does, throw him the ball for a five to seven yard pickup.

Swing




Swing routes are an extension of toss run plays. The running back breaks wide out of the backfield. If he has any type of speed and is matched with a linebacker, he can use it to outrun the defender once the catch is made. If the defense sends the heat, it's a great check down pass route. The Strong-Normal HB Swing out of the Saints' playbook is a great example of how effective this route can be. Notice how much room to run the halfback will have once the catch is made.

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Medium Pass Routes

Now that you have a better understanding of how some of the short pass routes work in *Madden NFL Football*, it's time to open things up a little bit more by looking at three medium pass routes that will help you improve your pass game. These pass routes take a little longer to develop than the shorter pass routes we just showed, so you may need an extra pass blocker if the defense sends the blitz.

Comebacks




There are several plays in the game where the receiver drives down 10-12 yards down the field, then comes back toward the quarterback about 2 yards. These pass routes are known as comebacks. They work best against man coverage or soft zone coverage. For them to be effective, the quarterback must have time for the receiver to run his route. If the ball is thrown right as the receiver comes back toward the quarterback, this type of route is very hard to defend. In the first screen shot, we show the Shotgun-Slot Strong TE Flip QB Dash Comeback. The receiver is running a comeback route. In the second screen, he comes back toward our quarterback. Notice he gets some separation on the defender covering him. Once he gets this separation, it's time to make the throw.

Cross




One of the better medium pass routes in the game is the crossing route. It is most effective when two receivers run crossing routes from opposite directions, especially if the defense plays man coverage. Often when they cross, the defenders will get picked, allowing one or both receivers some separation to get open for the grab. Also, your receivers need to have good hands to run this route effectively. If the receiver does not have the hands to hold on to the ball while getting popped over middle, avoid him. In the first screen, we show the two slot receivers running crossing routes out of the Singleback-4WR Spread. The name of the play is Slot Cross. Just after both receivers cross each other's paths, bullet the ball in. If the receiver catches the ball on the run, you have a good chance of picking up even more yardage as he turns upfield.

Post




There are two types of post routes: the post and the deep post. The post route is a good route to run with a receiver lined up in the slot or a tight end. Last year in *Madden NFL 06*, several top players would run all types of plays that have the slot or tight end running the post. Most players on defense found it rather tricky to defend elite tight ends running post routes. The player controlling the quarterback would throw a high bullet pass to the tight end for a high completion rate. It got to the point that the player on defense would manually control a safety to defend the post route run by the tight end. In *Madden NFL 07*, the post route is defended better as long as zone coverage is called. If man coverage is called and the offense has an elite receiver in the slot or at tight end, it's still very difficult to defend.

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Deep Pass Routes

Short and medium routes may be the cornerstone of your passing game, but the deep ball is what gets the fans out of their seats. With the improved defensive back play over the past few years, just running streaks won't do. You have to be a little more creative if you want to complete the long ball. Using QB Precision Placement, stick control, knowing route combinations, and creating mismatches will enable you to go deep.

Corner





If you have been playing ***Madden NFL Football*** over the past several years, you know that corner routes are the most efficient pass routes in the game. Some players still base their entire offense around this one route. In ***Madden NFL 07***, the defense does a better job at defending the corner routes due to the CPU AI being smarter, the ability to call individual defensive playmaker hot routes, and that fact that most experienced players on defense know how to defend them. With all that said, they are still effective at picking up big chunks of yardage downfield. In the first screen shot, we show what the Shotgun-4WR Smash Corners pass routes look like out of the Colts' playbook. Both slot receivers run deep corner routes. In the second screen, we show the slot on the left about to make the catch after he breaks toward the corner.

Fade





Over the last two years the playmaker fade route has probably been the most-used deep route beside the corner route. Instead of top players hot routing receivers to run streaks, they now playmaker the outside receivers to run fade routes. This allows them to create ways to get the receiver open through route combinations or use of manual stick control. In the first screen shot, the outside receiver lined up on the right has been playmakered on a fade route. The slot receiver runs a deep post route. This two-route combination is one of the more difficult ones to defend in ***Madden NFL Football***. Once the receiver on the outside gets down the field, throw a high bullet pass to him. If you have good stick control, you can take control of him and jump high for the ball.

Out 'n Ups





Another deep pass route that has caught fire with top players who played in the Madden Challenge and online over the last few years is the Out 'n Ups. In conjunction with the pump fake, this route is highly effective against no deep safeties as long there is time to make the throw once the receiver breaks down the field. In the first screen shot, the play called is the Split Backs-3WR Out 'n Ups. Both outside receivers run identical out n up pass routes. Notice the receivers break outside first about 5 yards down the field. Just as they break to go deep, they usually get some separation on the defender covering them. If you see them get a step on the defender, use the pump fake and then throw the ball deep down the field. While the ball is up in the air, take control of the receiver and press down on the Sprint to get some extra distance from the defender. If done correctly, you should be walking into the end zone for a quick six points.

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DEFENSIVE STRATEGY

Note: *All control commands are performed with the Xbox Controller.*

THE HIT STICK

This is the third year the hit stick has been included in *Madden NFL Football*. By flicking up or down on the Right Thumbstick, a player can put a bone crushing hit on the ball carrier and possibly force a fumble. In this section, we show time-tested ways to use the hit stick. We also go into some detail about the risks and rewards involved.

A Defending the High Pass

Last year in *Madden NFL 06*, the high precision pass was the most successful way to move the ball. Slants, curls, hitches, and several other pass routes could be delivered high with great effect.

Most top players found the best way to counter the high pass was to use the hit stick to knock the ball out of a receiver's hands as he was attempting to make the catch. Although the high precision pass has been toned in this year's game, it still can be effective against man coverage. By learning to use the hit stick at the proper time, you can knock the ball out of the receiver's hands and make your opponent think twice about using it all game long.





B Creating Fumbles

We have already shown how effective the hit stick can be in jarring the ball free from receivers, but it also can be used to force fumbles. In the first screen, the defender closes in on the ball carrier. In the second screen the hit stick is used. The defender delivers a vicious blow that causes the ball carrier to fumble the ball.





C High Risk / High Reward

Using the hit stick properly can lead to turnovers and broken up passes, but it also comes with risks. Don't habitually use it as your main way to tackle and break up passes. This is particularly true when playing online where lag becomes an issue. By selling out to use the hit stick, there is a good possibility that you may miss the ball carrier or receiver completely. If this happens, the player with the ball can go all the way for an easy six points.

Another factor to consider when using the hit stick feature is player match ups. They play a significant role in the equation when determining the outcome of a play. For instance a smaller defensive back will not have as good a chance of making the tackle or causing a fumble against a bigger running back. In this case, the better option is to make a normal tackle to at least slow him down. If you use the hit stick while controlling the defensive back, make sure other defenders are around to clean up if you don't bring the runner down.



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DEFENSIVE ASSIGNMENTS

Defensive Assignments were first added to *Madden NFL 05* to help counter match up problems that occurred in previous editions. For example, back in *Madden NFL 04*, if player a moved his top receiver into the slot, a third or fourth defensive back would cover him. The only way to change your coverage on him was to pause the game and move him inside through the use of the defensive depth chart or formation sub menu. That was a lot of micromanagement that most players were not up to.

With the addition of Defensive Assignments, that type of micromanagement is not needed. For instance if the offense has a top-notch receiver, you can put your top cornerback on him to keep him in check. Not only can you assign your top cornerback, you can assign any defender (except defensive linemen) on any receiver, halfback, fullback, or tight end. For instance, if your opponent likes to package or sub his top receiver into the slot, your top cornerback can be assigned to cover him no matter where the receiver lines up.



Setting Up Defensive Assignments

To set up Defensive Assignments, go under the Coaching Strategy menu and choose "Defensive Assignments." Next, select the offensive player(s) you want to assign a particular defender to guard.

Here (1) we have selected Raiders' receiver Randy Moss. We decide to have Champ Bailey cover him. Bailey's speed, height, and awareness give our defense the best chance at slowing down Moss.

In the second screenshot (2), Bailey is covering Moss in the slot. If we hadn't used the Defensive Assignment feature, then Bailey would have been covering the flanker and our third defensive back would have covered Moss. That's not a match up that favors our defense.



How to Integrate Defensive Assignments

The obvious way to use the Defensive Assignments feature would be to have your top cornerback covering your opponent's top receiver. If you use this feature just for that reason, then you are missing out on its other benefits. Here are a few things you may want to consider adding to your schemes when assigning defensive coverage.

• Put your top defensive back on a lower-rated receiver. That way you limit your opponent's ability to throw to that side of the field. Now you can roll your pass coverage to the other side of the field and focus on defending your opponent's top receiver.

• If the halfback is the main target in your opponent's pass game, consider assigning your top linebacker or defensive back on him. That way you limit the primary threat and force him to throw to other receivers on the field.

• If you are playing against teams with an elite tight end, such as the Chargers' Antonio Gates, assign a linebacker or safety who has good coverage skills to him.

Pros and Cons of Using Defensive Assignments

+ Pros

• Being able to match up specific defenders on specific receivers.

• Takes away your opponent's ability on offense to get unrealistic match-ups.

• Allows for more creativity and flexibility for the defense when calling man coverage.

- Cons

• It shows whether the defense is playing man or zone coverage and also leads to defenders playing out of position. For example, the left outside linebacker and strong safety switch positions. The left outside linebacker now plays the strong safety position and the strong safety now plays the left outside linebacker spot because he is man coverage on the tight end.

• If man lock coverage is turned off, the defender assigned to that particular receiver will not follow. Instead the defender will slide in to cover the slot or tight end. For example, say the offense comes out in the Split Backs 3WR and the defense comes out in the Dime Normal Man Under. If man lock is turned off and if the receiver on the far right is sent in motion, the defender covering him will slide in to cover the slot. The defensive back lined up inside on the left now slides out to cover the receiver in motion. Often this creates a mismatch that favors the offense.

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INDIVIDUAL DEFENSE PLAYMAKER

Back again in *Madden NFL 07* are the individual defensive playmaker hot routes that allow users to make adjustments on the fly. Ask any top player what one of the best features introduced in the last couple of years and he will tell you it's individual defensive playmaker adjustments. A lot of players tend to overuse individual defensive playmaker hot routes by dropping all their defenders into pass coverage. Some players call this cheese and others say it's part of football. In the play action section of the book, we show an effective counter to use against this type of strategy.



Flat (Light Blue)

While the defender is selected, press right once on the Right Thumbstick.

If your opponent is abusing the flats, hot route a defender to the flat to take away his bread and butter.

When to use:

- Use it to stop the outside run. Often defenders get out quicker because their assignment is to play the flats.
- When the offense is abusing the flats with running backs or tight ends. Playmakering a defensive end to play the flats can be an effective strategy, but it takes away from your pass rush.
- Use it to stop athletic quarterbacks from rolling out of the pocket. If the quarterback tries to take off, the defender covering the flat is normally in position to make a play before any damage is done.
- Use it to cover outs, screens, curls, hooks, and hitches.
- If your opponent tends to run more of a horizontal style of offense, this is a good tactic.

When not to use:

- If the offense is pounding the rock inside.
- If another defender is already defending the flats. There is no reason to have two defenders covering the same area of the field.
- If your opponent tends to run more of a vertical offense and does not use the flats.



Curl Flat Zone (Purple)

While the defender is selected, press right twice on the Right Thumbstick.

It's a good choice against corner routes run by slot receivers. The curl flat zone is probably the most-used playmaker adjustment.

When to use:

- Against corner routes, use the curl flat zone defensive hot route in conjunction with shading safeties toward the sideline. This one-two combination is very effective in stopping corner and post corner routes.
- It is not as effective as the flats coverage defensive hot route, but the curl flat zone can be used to stop passes to running backs and tight ends in the flat. Normally the receiver will make the catch but not pick up any extra yardage because the defender can close in a hurry to make the tackle.
- In *Madden NFL 06*, the curl pass was really effective against any type of defensive coverage. In *Madden NFL 07*, defenders dropping into the curl flat zones do a much a better job at defending the high curl pass, a.k.a. the Rocket Curl.
- If you are playing Cover 2 zone, use it to put a defender in between the cornerback playing the flat and the safety playing the deep half of the field. There's a soft spot in the Cover 2 zone coverage where the receiver is open between the cornerback and safety. By assigning a defender to cover the curl flat zone, you can take away that soft spot. There are a few defenses in the game where this is already done for you, such as the Nickel 3-3-5 Cover 2.

When not to use:

- If your opponent likes to run the ball inside, don't make this adjustment. By calling curl flat zones, you put the defenders out of position to stop the run.
- If the defense you called has defenders already dropping into the curl flat zones there is no need to make this call.
- If your opponent likes to run drags, crosses, ins, slants, and deep post routes, stay away from this adjustment.



Quarterback Spy (Orange Circle)

While the defender is selected, press left once on the Right Thumbstick.

Ever since the defensive Quarterback Spy hot route was put in the game in *2005*, players on offense have had a harder time taking off and running with quarterback to pick up yardage.

When to use:

- Use it to counter against athletic quarterbacks who like to take off and run the ball.
- Use it to defend against drag and crossing routes over the middle. Even though the defender is spying the quarterback, he is often in position to guard against passes over the middle.

When not to use:

- Do not spy the quarterback if he is a pure pocket passer unless you plan to use it to stop drags and crossing routes.
- Do not put a defender in QB Spy if he is in man coverage on a receiver unless it's a fullback or a player your opponent does not throw to much.

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Blitz
(Orange Arrow)

While the defender is selected, press down once on the Right Thumbstick.

Adding an extra defender to blitz can be beneficial to stop the run or to bring the heat on the quarterback. A lot of top players create heat by hot routing a defender or two to blitz on the same side, while dropping players into zone on the other side. Usually the player controlling the quarterback gets confused and is either sacked or forces a pass into tight coverage where a defender picks off the pass.

When to use:

- If the offense is showing a run up the middle or to the outside when you do not have a defense called to properly stop the play.
- Use it to overload one side of the defensive line. Sending more pass rushers than the offensive line can protect against often results in the quarterback having to throw quicker than he may want. This can lead to interceptions and/or sacks.
- The defensive line can also be hot routed to blitz. Hot routing linemen to blitz changes the way they pass rush the quarterback.

When not to use:

- Do not blitz a defender when he is supposed to be covering a specific area of the field unless you have another defender to take on that vacated space.
- Do not blitz if your opponent likes to go max protect. You will just get picked up and leave holes in your secondary.



Quarterback Contain
(Black Arrow)

While the defender is selected, press down twice on the Right Thumbstick.

Having containment on the quarterback forces him to think twice about taking off. The defender will not rush the quarterback initially unless the quarterback takes off out of the pocket.

When to use:

- Use it to keep the quarterback in the pocket.
- Use it as a counter to players who step up, then step back in the pocket with the quarterback.

When not to use:

- If the offense is running the ball with a halfback or fullback, this can hurt your defense.



Deep Zone (Dark Blue)

While the defender is selected, press up twice on the Right Thumbstick.

Use this defensive playmaker hot route to take away the deep ball. Any defender can be hot routed to drop into the deep zones of the field.

When to use:

- Against players who like to use the long ball as their main source of attack.
- In third and long situations when the offense has no other alternative to pick up a first down.
- When you want a defensive back to cover deep, but don't want him to play man coverage. Works best when your defensive back is slower than the receiver across from him.

When not to use:

- Does not do a good job at covering underneath pass routes such as quick outs, ins, slants, curls, hitches, hooks, and screens.



Hook Zone (Yellow Circle)

While the defender is selected, press up once on the Right Thumbstick.

This option allows any defender to play hook zones. Drop defensive linemen and linebackers over the short to mid middle of the field to take away circle and angle routes run by running backs. Playmaker a safety to play a hook zone to take away quick slants and make your opponent pay for not reading the safeties after the snap.

When to use:

- Use the hook zone coverage to drop a defensive lineman into the area vacated by blitzing linebackers. This lets you rush a quicker linebacker without sacrificing too much pass coverage underneath. This is really effective when dropping a defensive tackle over the middle while you attack outside of the line with your middle linebacker.
- Drop multiple defensive linemen inside the red zone to take away short passes over the middle.
- Drop linebackers into hook zones when playing man coverage on the outside. Often your opponent will read man and look to throw inside where a linebacker is waiting to pick off the pass.
- Use hook zones to stop drags and crossing routes.

When not to use:

- If your opponent tends to avoid the short middle of the field, then this call is a waste. The CPU AI will attack you if you leave the middle open, but not every human opponent will. If that's the case, there is no point in covering the middle; instead use your defenders to cover routes on the outside.
- Do not use in third and long situations or at end of half or game situations. Chances are your opponent will not look to throw passes underneath, knowing he or she won't pick up enough yardage.

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DEFENSIVE LINE SHIFTS



Spread Defensive Line

Press the defensive line audible button and then press up on the D-pad or Left Thumbstick to spread the defensive line out.

Strengths:
- Gives the defensive ends a better pass rush angle for sacking the quarterback.
- Puts defensive ends in better position to stop the outside run.
- Does a good job at keeping athletic quarterbacks from taking off out of the pocket.

Weaknesses:
- Not very strong against the inside run.
- Must have fast defensive ends to maximize pass rush from the outside angle.



Pinch Defensive Line

Press the defensive line audible button and then press down on the D-pad or Left Thumbstick to pinch the defensive line in.

Strengths:
- Stout against the inside runs.
- Better pass rush up the gut.
- Creates inside gaps for the linebackers to shoot through.

Weaknesses:
- Defensive ends are limited in their pass rush.
- Does not contain the athletic quarterback.
- Defensive linemen cannot defend the outside run as well.



Shift Defensive Line Left

Press the defensive line audible button and then press left on the D-pad or Left Thumbstick to shift the defensive line left.

Strengths:
- Generates pressure from the weak side by overloading the offensive line.
- Puts defensive linemen in better position to defend against weak side runs.
- Decent against the inside run.

Weaknesses:
- Pressure from the strong side is not as intense.
- Defensive linemen are not in good position to defend against strong side runs.



Shift Defensive Line Right

Pres the defensive line audible button and then press right on the D-pad or Left Thumbstick to shift the defensive line right.

Strengths:
- Creates pressure from the strong side by overloading the offensive line.
- Puts defensive linemen in better position to defend against strong side runs.
- Decent against inside runs.

Weaknesses:
- Pressure from the opposite side is not as effective.
- Defensive linemen are not in good position to defend against weak side runs.

Defensive Line Audibles Using Playmaker Stick

Crash Out



To have the defensive line crash out, press the defensive line audible button, and then press up on the Right Thumbstick.

Crash In



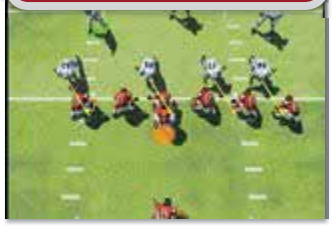
To have the defensive line crash in, press the defensive line audible button, and then press down on the Right Thumbstick.

Crash Left



To have the defensive line crash left, press the defensive line audible button, and then press left on the Right Thumbstick.

Crash Right



To have the defensive line crash right, press the defensive line audible button, and then press right on the Right Thumbstick.

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LB AUDIBLE SHIFTS

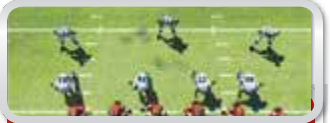


Pinch Linebackers In

Press down on the LB audible button and then press down on the D-pad or Left Thumbstick to pinch the linebackers in.

Strengths:
- Puts linebackers in a better position to be able to stop the inside run.
- Puts linebackers in better position to put pressure on the quarterback up the middle.

Weaknesses:
- Linebackers do not defend against the outside run as well.
- Linebackers are not in position to defend multiple receiver sets.
- Not as well suited to contain the athletic quarterback.



Spread Linebackers Out

Press down on the LB audible button and then press up on the D-pad or Left Thumbstick to spread the linebackers out.

Strengths:
- The outside linebackers have better pass rush angles to get pressure on the quarterback.
- Allows outside linebackers to take better angles at stopping the outside run.
- Spreading the linebackers out puts them closer to cover the slot receiver.
- Puts linebackers in better position to keep the athletic quarterback in the pocket.

Weaknesses:
- Puts the outside linebackers out of position to stop the inside run.

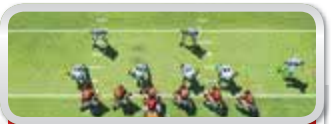


Shift Linebackers Left

Press down on the LB audible button then press left on the D-pad or Left Thumbstick to shift the linebackers left.

Strengths:
- The right outside linebacker has an improved pass rush angle to put pressure on the quarterback.
- Good for stopping the weak side toss and pitch plays.
- If the offense comes out in the I-Form Twin, it puts the right outside linebacker closer to the slot if zone coverage is called.

Weaknesses:
- Weak against the strong side run.
- Left outside linebacker's pass rush angle might be sacrificed somewhat because he is moved inside.
- Weak at containing athletic quarterbacks to the strong side.



Shift Linebackers Right

Press down on the LB audible button then press right on the D-pad or Left Thumbstick to shift the linebackers right.

Strengths:
- The left outside linebacker has an improved pass rush angle to the quarterback.
- Good at stopping the strong side toss.
- Does a decent job against inside runs.
- Does a good job at containing athletic quarterbacks from the strong side.

Weaknesses:
- Weak against the weak side run.
- The right outside linebacker's pass rush angle might be sacrificed somewhat because he is moved inside.
- Weak at containing athletic quarterbacks to the weak side.

Linebacker Shift Audibles Using Playmaker Stick

All LB Blitz



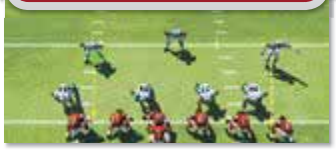
To send all the linebackers on a blitz, press the LB audible button and then press down on the Right Thumbstick.

All LB Hook Zone



To send all linebackers into hook zones, press the LB audible and up on the Right Thumbstick.

ROLB & LOLB Blitz



To send both the ROLB and LOLB on a blitz, press the LB audible button and then press left on the Right Thumbstick. Again press the LB audible and this time press right on the Right Thumbstick. The ROLB and LOLB will now blitz. This method is faster than individually selecting the linebackers and assigning them to blitz.

LOLB Blitz, Hook Zone



To have the LOLB blitz with the MLB and ROLB dropping back in hook zones underneath, press the LB audible button and then press up on the Right Thumbstick. Next press the LB audible again, and then press right on the Right Thumbstick. The LOLB will now blitz, while the MLB and ROLB play hook zones underneath.

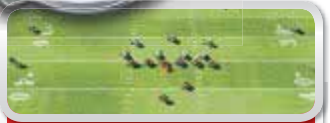
ROLB Blitz, Hook Zone



To have the ROLB blitz with the MLB and LOLB dropping back in hook zones underneath, press the LB audible button and then up on the Right Thumbstick. Next press the LB audible again, and then left on the Right Thumbstick. The ROLB will now blitz, while the MLB and LOLB play hook zones underneath.

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COVERAGE AUDIBLE SHIFTS

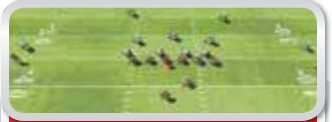


Loose Coverage

Press the coverage audible button and then press up on the D-pad or Left Thumbstick.

Strengths:
- Puts the cornerbacks and safeties in a deeper alignment before the snap to be in better position to defend against the deep pass.
- Cornerbacks playing loose coverage are less likely to be blocked on outside runs; receivers must go down the field farther to block them.

Weaknesses:
- Quick outs, slants, hitches, and WR screens are sound strategies against loose coverage.

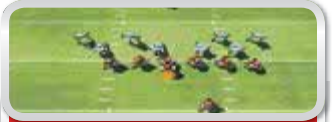


Tight Coverage

Press the coverage audible button and then press down on the D-pad or Left Thumbstick.

Strengths:
- Defensive backs jam receivers at the line of scrimmage.
- Impedes the timing between the quarterback and receiver on routes such as slants.

Weaknesses:
- Defensive backs can easily be beaten deep unless they have a good acceleration rating.
- Not as good vs. run support; receivers tend to lock on defensive backs longer than if in normal or loose coverage.

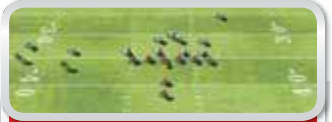


Show Blitz

Press the coverage audible button and then press left on the D-pad or Left Thumbstick.

Strengths:
- Enhances inside run support.
- Provides opportunities for safeties to put pressure on the quarterback by shooting through the gaps.

Weaknesses:
- Weak against outside runs to either side. The safeties can get caught in traffic when pursuing of running backs to the outside.
- Safeties are suspect against the deep pass.

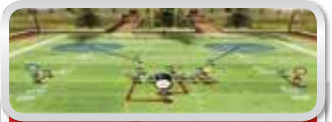


Man Shift Coverage Audible

Press the coverage audible button and then press right on the D-pad or Left Thumbstick.

Strengths:
- Puts the defensive backs in better position to cover receivers in the man coverage. This also applies to linebackers.
- Quicker to use than manually moving defenders into place.

Weaknesses:
- A good human player on offense can pre-read pass coverage assignments based on how defenders line up.

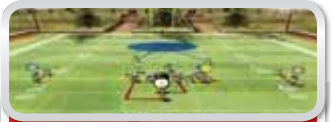


Safeties Shading the Sidelines

Press the coverage audible button and then press up on the D-pad or Right Thumbstick.

Strengths:
- Works against corner and post corner routes.
- Use it to defend against streak and fade routes run by the outside receivers.

Weaknesses:
- Deep post routes can exploit this type of coverage.
- Seam routes run by tight ends can be deadly against this type of coverage.

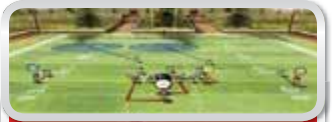


Safeties Shading the Deep Zone

Press the coverage audible button and then press down on the D-pad or Right Thumbstick.

Strengths:
- Works best at defending deep post routes.
- Defends the deep middle of the field against seam routes by tight ends.

Weaknesses:
- Corner and post corner routes exploit this type of coverage.
- Safeties have to make up more ground to cover streaks run by the outside receivers.



Safeties Left Deep Zone

Press the coverage audible button and then press left on the D-pad or Right Thumbstick.

Strengths:
- The safeties cheat to the left side of the deep zone.
- If your opponent has an elite receiver line up on the left side of the field, shade your safeties to his side. This forces the quarterback to look to the other side to find an open receiver.

Weaknesses:
- Coverage is sacrificed on the deep right zone.



Safeties Right Deep Zone

Press the coverage audible button and then press right on the D-pad or Right Thumbstick.

Strengths:
- Cheats the safeties to the right side of the deep zone.
- If your opponent has an elite receiver line up on the right side of the field, shade your safeties to his side. This forces the quarterback to look to the other side to find an open receiver.

Weaknesses:
- Coverage is sacrificed on the deep left zone.

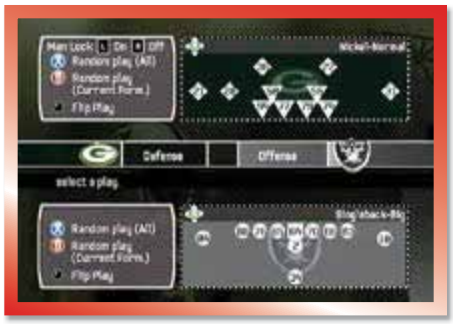
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MAN LOCK ON/OFF

In *Madden NFL 05*, EA SPORTS added the capability to turn man coverage on and off for the human-controlled defense. When the man lock on/off feature is used, it makes it harder for offensive players to make a distinction between man and zone coverage.

In *Madden NFL 07*, man lock on and off is back again. At the play call screen, press the L1 button for the PS2 (Left Trigger on the Xbox) and man lock coverage is turned on. Press the R1 button for the PS2 (Right Trigger on the Xbox) and man lock coverage is turned off.

Man lock on and off coverage can also be reset while on the field. When man lock is off at the play call screen and you decide you want man lock on once the teams break the huddle, just press the coverage audible (Triangle for PS2, Y for Xbox) and then press the D-pad or Left Thumbstick right. The defenders will now be in man lock coverage on. If you want to turn it off again, press the coverage audible (Triangle for PS2, Y for Xbox) and then press the D-pad or Left Thumbstick right.



In the screen shot, we show that the defense is in man coverage, but man lock has been turned off. Once the receiver is sent in motion, the cornerback covering him will not follow. Instead the corner-back passes the receiver on to another defender and will go cover the tight end as he does in the second screen shot.





Do's and Don't's: Hit Stick

Do:

- Use the Hit Stick if the ball carrier has a low carrier rating. Often a well time Hit Stick can jar the ball loose from the ball carrier and cause a fumble.
- When the ball is thrown high up in the air to a receiver, take control of the defender closes to the receiver. Just as the receiver makes the catch, use the Hit Stick to knock ball out. This is one of most effective ways to counter the high precision pass that was used • Do you use the Hit Stick on kick and punt returns when there are several CPU defenders around the ball carrier. Even if you miss tackling the kick or punt returner, the CPU defenders will be in position to make the tackle.
- Learn to time the Hit Stick in rushing attack mode.
- Use the Hit Stick when control defensive linemen or a linebacker while being engaged by an offensive linemen.

Often when the Hit Stick is used, you knock the offensive linemen out of the way to get to the quarterback.

Don't:

- When playing against a human opponent with great stick skill, be cautious when using the Hit Stick. These types of players can make you look silly when the Hit Stick is used.
- When playing online, see how your connection is to your opponent. If you feel there is lag, you may not want to use the Hit Stick as much because of the chance of timing being off.
- Don't use the Hit Stick while in control of corner backs when trying to tackle bigger running backs. Chances are the running back will run the cornerback over. You are better off just trying to wrap the ball carrier up.

TIP!

The default coverage is always going to be man lock on, unless you decide to call man lock off. The defenders will always follow the receivers as long as it's on.

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BLITZ

Different types of blitzing schemes were developed in the golden age of the NFL. In today's game, NFL defensive coordinators use these same concepts while adding new ones to give quarterbacks different looks. Some defensive coordinators use a zone blitz scheme, others use a man coverage blitz scheme, and others use both. They all have one common goal: to get after the quarterback. In *Madden NFL 07* you are the team's defensive coordinator. Knowing the nuts and bolts of how and when to blitz will improve your defense dramatically.



The Five Objectives of a Blitzing Defense

Sacking the quarterback is all defenders' goal when blitzing, but does not mean failure if the quarterback is not sacked. Being able to generate instant heat makes the quarterback uncomfortable in the pocket, causing him to throw quicker than he normally wants to. The quarterback is more likely to throw errant passes that can lead to interceptions. Even if the quarterback is able to make the correct read, avoid the heat, and get the pass off, his throws will be considerably short of the first down marker. Here is our list of five objectives of a blitzing defense.

1. Sack the quarterback.
2. Pressure the quarterback into throwing incomplete passes.
3. Force turnovers – either by him throwing interceptions or by hitting him before or after he throws the ball, causing fumbles.
4. Make the quarterback throw shorter passes in long yardage situations.
5. Dictate the tempo of the game.

Downfalls of Utilizing the Blitz

- Unless the defense is zone blitzing, it requires man-to-man coverage. Often defensive backs will be left in one-on-one coverage with no safety help deep.
- Increases the chance for the offense to score on a big play if the offensive line and backs are able to pick up the blitz to give the quarterback time to scan the field and find the open receiver for a scoring strike.
- Athletic quarterbacks who can get out of the pocket can break containment and scramble for huge chunks of yardage.
- Defenders wear out faster if they are continually sent on a blitz.

Tips for Effective Blitzing

- In *Madden NFL 06*, random blitz assignments were added to the game. A defender that is assigned to blitz a particular gap may not always do what the play diagram shows. This was done to counter nanos (instant heat). When setting up a defense in practice mode, keep in mind that your blitz may not work twice in a row because the defenders will randomly blitz different gaps.
- For best results, put your fastest defensive personnel out on the field when blitzing the quarterback. The more speed the defender has, the quicker he will get to the quarterback.
- First set up blitz packages in practice mode. Once you feel comfortable, try them in a real game situation. A blitz that works in practice mode may not always work the same way in regular game mode. That's why we suggest running them in a real game situation to be sure they work. You don't want to play a human online and call a blitz you thought worked, then all of sudden it doesn't and you get burned for a big play. The best way to learn to set up blitz packages is to put one controller on your team and the other controller on the other. Once on the field, set the defense up and then run the play to see if it works. If it does work, then you know you can comfortably run it against a human opponent online or offline.
- Learn to manually blitz a defender if he is playing zone or man coverage. You can generate even more heat on the quarterback than a default blitz defense.
- Once you find a blitz setup that works, be sure to run it against multiple formations to see if it is effective or not.
- If your opponent smells blitz, he can use the slide protection feature to counter your blitz setup. That's why it's important to set up blitz packages against the four slide protection adjustments that can be used. Repetition is imperative when learning how to set up blitz packages. Some take time to set up.
- We cannot stress how important it is to use instant replay to see how the pass protection works against the blitz. This also applies to playing the CPU. Often the CPU sets up a blitz through the use of shifts and can get after the quarterback quickly. If you see a blitz by the CPU that comes in quickly, save it for further review.

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RUN/PASS COMMIT

If you press down on the Right Thumbstick within a second of the snap, the defenders commit to the run. If you press up within a second of the snap, the defenders commit to the pass. This feature helps turn every down into more of a chess match, as the user controlling the defense tries to anticipate the offense's next move. If the offense has called a play action play and you decide to commit to the run, be prepared to get burned deep. If play action is called and you press the Right Thumbstick up, there is a better chance the safeties won't bite on the play fake. If the offense has called a draw play and you decide to commit to the pass, the ball carrier can get past the initial contact and rip off a good chunk of yardage.






Another addition to Run/Pass Commit feature is the ability to crash the defenders to the left or right of the line of scrimmage. If you can anticipate the run's direction, this feature gets them in position quicker to make the tackle. Press left on the Right Thumbstick to make the defenders crash to the left side. Press right on the Right Thumbstick to make the defenders crash to the right side. Be careful of teams that run a lot of counter plays, as they will hurt you if you guess incorrectly.






DEFENSIVE KEYS

There are a number of different philosophies when it comes to defensive play. Whether you advocate a bend but don't break plan, or an aggressive blitzing style, you have one goal on defense: don't let your opponents score! Top players in ***Madden NFL Football*** are masters of both sides of the ball. Many people neglect the fundamentals on defense. This section reviews some basics.

- Keep points off the board. We are all about dropping the hit stick on somebody or dumping the QB into the dirt. Remember, it's not a stat contest; it's all about keeping your opponent from putting the ball in to the end zone. Lab up your red zone defense and force your opponent to settle for field goals.

- Limit your opponent to three and out. You don't want to be the victim of a long, sustained drive. This tires your players and lets your opponent get into a groove. Throw your best stuff at your opponent at the end of each series to stop him before he gets going.

- Create turnovers. Use these opportunities to go for the strip. Practice your user catch skills so you can cut off receivers and take the ball. Spend lots of time in the DB Swat drill to max out your skills.

- Score on defense! We are always looking to put points on the board when on defense. In the Bucs' Super Bowl season, Coach Gruden challenged his defense to score nine TDs over the season. They scored their ninth in the Super Bowl. Take the rock and head for the goal line every chance that you get. Don't forget your celebratory dive at the end!

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Critical Keys to Success



Mix Coverages

Mix up your coverages. Don't get into a groove calling the same type of coverage on every single play. Use your playmaker to create on-the-fly zone blitzes to confuse your opponent.



Sack

Throw in frequent blitzes to force errors. Don't give the QB all day in the pocket to pick you apart. If you get good pressure on him, you can create turnovers and cause the QB to make rushed throws.



Double Cover

Don't leave your corners out on an island play after play. Do it too often and you will get flat lit up. You need to have safety help over the top to cut down on the big plays.



Stay Clean

If you are playing with a linebacker, do your best to keep him clean. Avoid the initial block and you will be in position to make plays in the running game. We like to slide our user-controlled LB behind one of the defensive linemen so that he can't get hit right off the snap. Use the strafe button to keep him stationary until you figure out the flow of the play.



Manual Control

Use manual controlled delay blitzes. Take a linebacker and hit the strafe button. Wait for a gap to open up and then blitz him through the open hole and get after the QB. Be sure to fake the blitz with this same player and drop into coverage from time to time to keep the offense honest.

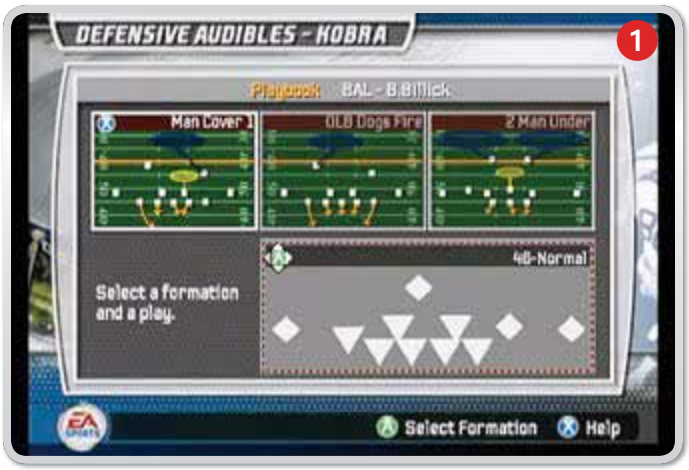
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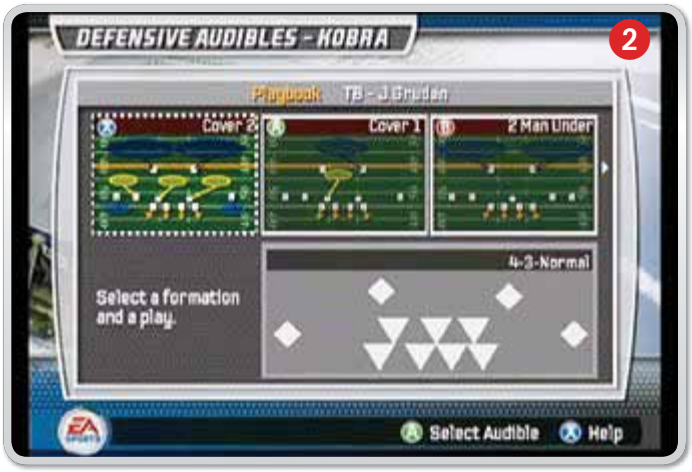
DEFENSIVE PLAYBOOKS

In 1999, the *Madden NFL Football* series introduced team specific playbooks, but on the defensive side there has been only a handful of generic playbooks to choose from. For instance in *Madden NFL 06*, there were six generic defensive playbooks. The CPU-controlled teams had only two playbooks they ran: the 4-3 or 3-4. Every team that ran a 4-3 defense had the same formations and plays.

In *Madden NFL 07*, that's not the case any more. Each team on defense now has its own unique playbook. For example if two teams run a 4-3 scheme, chances are they won't have the same formations and plays in their book. This results in more unique games than playing against teams that run the same type of scheme.

When you look through the defensive playbooks, you'll find that teams such as the Ravens have plays from the 46 Normal (1), where teams such as the Buccaneers that run Cover 2 (2), have those types of plays in their playbook. If a team tends to be more aggressive, it will have more plays that bring the heat. If a team likes to play a Bend But Don't Break style of defense, then you will find more zones in its playbook.





TIP!

If you don't like any of the 32 team-specific defensive playbooks, don't worry, the six generic defensive playbooks are still in the game. They are:

- 4-3
- 3-4
- 46
- Cover 2
- Balanced
- QB Contain

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CHICAGO BEARS

Division: NFC North | **Stadium:** Soldier Field | **Type:** Open | **Capacity:** 61,500 | **Surface:** Grass



2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
11	5	0	260	202	7-1	4-4	1-3	10-2	5-1

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	87
Offense	87
Defense	89

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Team Rankings

Scoring	26th
Passing Offense	31st
Rushing Offense	8th
Passing Defense	5th
Rushing Defense	11th
Turnovers	6th

TEAM STRATEGY

Playing As: Chicago Bears

1 The Bears are a ball control team. Pound running backs Thomas Jones and Cedric Benson behind the big offensive line to keep the clock moving..

2 In third-down passing situations, get the ball to Muhsin Muhammad.

2 Put Brian Urlacher in spy coverage to keep athletic quarterbacks from taking off.

Playing Against: Chicago Bears

1 Test the Bears' run defense by pounding the ball inside. The team's defensive tackles are not very strong at the point of attack and won't hold up the whole game.

2 Crowd the box to stop the run game. If the Bears are going to move the ball effectively, it's not going to be through the air, but on the ground. By putting both safeties in the box, the Bears' running backs will have a hard time finding any open holes.

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• The Bears potentially have the best one-two punch at running with Thomas Jones and second-year player Cedric Benson. Veteran Muhsin Muhammad did not put up the same type of numbers last year as he did in Carolina, but he is still the team's best receiver. The Bears offensive line, led by center Olin Kreutz is one of the strongest in the league.

Weaknesses

• First and foremost is the health of QB Rex Grossman. Over the past three years he has managed to start in only seven games because of various injuries. If he can stay upright, Chicago should see a major improvement the passing game. If Grossman can't stay healthy, Brian Griese brings some insurance that the season won't go up in smoke.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• The Monsters of the Midway had one of the best units on the field last season. Led by MLB Brian Urlacher, the Bear defense was able to keep games close despite the offense's struggles. DT Tommie Harris, CB Nate Vasher, and SS Mike Brown were also key ingredients.

Weaknesses

• When the Bears faced the Panthers, Steve Smith was able to exploit the one glaring hole in their otherwise stellar defensive armor. That's lack of speed in the secondary. For the Bears to go further in the playoffs, they need to be able to defend deep. If they can, they could be a serious contender to make it to the Super Bowl..

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Brian Griese	Dolphins	QB	6'3"	214
FA	NA	Ricky Manning	Panthers	CB	5'8"	185
FA	NA	Dante Wesley	Carolina	CB	6'0"	211
Rookie	2	Danieal Manning	Abilene Christian	CB	5'10"	202
Rookie	2	Devin Hester	Miami (FL)	CB	5'1"1	186

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Brian Urlacher • Middle Linebacker (MLB) #54

Showcase Plays for Urlacher

4-3-Normal



Free Fire

• Urlacher shoots through the A gap looking to blow up the run or go after the quarterback if it is a pass. If it is a run play, Urlacher has the strength and agility to shed blockers and get to the running back before he breaks away. In the screen shot above, Urlacher crushes up the ball carrier in the backfield.

Nickel-Normal



Cover 2

• Urlacher is not only a great run defender, he also possesses the ability to drop back in coverage to cover tight ends, running backs, and in some cases slot receivers. In Nickel-Normal Flat Four he drops back in a hook zone and is in perfect position to pick off the pass.



Key Attributes

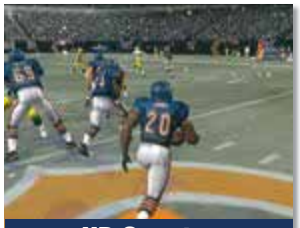
Acceleration	93
Agility	88
Break Tackle	90
Speed	88

Brian Urlacher has become the prototype middle linebacker in the league with his outstanding speed and his ability to make plays all over the field. He used to rely on pure athleticism to make plays, but over the last two years he has become better at play recognition before and after the snap.

Thomas Jones • HalfBack (HB) #20

Showcase Plays for Jones

Singleback-Normal



HB Counter

• One of the best run plays over the last few years is the I-Form Normal HB Counter. Once the ball is handed off to Jones, he starts to go to left. At this point the defenders respond to his initial movement and go in this direction. He then switches fields and follows the fullback and pulling left guard through the hole.

I Form-WR



QB Sprintout

• This play showcases Jones's ability as a receiver. Against man coverage his angle route is highly effective once he cuts toward the middle. Once he gets inside position on the defender covering him, throw a bullet pass in his direction. Expect to pick up 8-10 yards per catch.



Key Attributes

Acceleration	93
Agility	90
Break Tackle	87
Speed	90

Thomas Jones came on strong last year after posting his first 1,000-yard season as a pro. His ability to use his speed to burst through the hole serves him well when playing in Chicago during the colder months of the year. He is one of the most underrated backs coming out of the backfield as a receiver. In his first two years with the Bears, he had 82 catches for 570 yards.

Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

• **Position:** HB
• **Substitution:** Cedric Benson
• **When:** Running inside or near the goal line
• **Advantage:** Package or sub Cedric Benson in around the goal line or in third and short situations. Benson has a higher break tackle rating and is a bigger back than Thomas Jones.

• **Position:** WR
• **Substitution:** Bernard Berrian
• **When:** Global
• **Advantage:** Mark Bradley is listed as the number-two receiver on the team's depth chart, but he does not have the speed that Bernard Berrian has to stretch the field.

• **Position:** DT
• **Substitution:** Michael Haynes
• **When:** Obvious passing situations
• **Advantage:** Tank Johnson is listed at the team's third defensive tackle, but if you look at Ian Scout, the Bears number two defensive tackle, you will find Johnson is faster.

Fantasy Outlook

• **Star:** Muhsin Muhammad
• **Draft:** 7th round
• **2006 Outlook:** He may never put up the same type of fantasy numbers as he did with the Panthers, but he is a solid number-three or -four receiver.

• **Star:** Thomas Jones
• **Draft:** 5th round
• **2006 Outlook:** Jones ran for 1,335 yards and scored nine rushing TDs. His playing time situation needs to be closely watched this season because Cedric Benson will be in the mix for carries.

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Coaching Profile

Lovie Smith

- **Head Coaching Year:** 3rd
- **Experience:** Defensive coordinator for St.Louis Rams ('01-'03).

Since being named the Chicago Bears' head coach in January 2004, Smith has led his team to a 16-16 regular season record. Last season he coached the Bears to a first-place finish in the NFC North with an 11-5 record.

TEAM STRATEGY

Detailed Package Info

Chicago Bears

- **Formation:** Singleback-Big
- **Package:** Spell HB
- **Play:** HB Dive
- **Advantage:** Cedric Benson is more physical and bigger than Thomas Jones. Spelling him in the Singleback-Big HB Dive gives you a better chance to pick up the tough yardage inside.

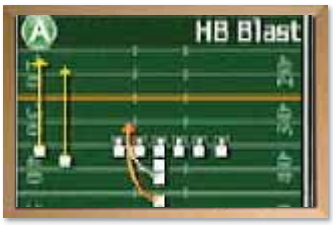
- **Formation:** Split Backs-3WR
- **Package:** Strong Slot
- **Play:** Slot Cross
- **Advantage:** Muhsin Muhammad is the Bears' top receiver. This package lines him up in the slot where can make the clutch catch.

- **Formation:** 4-3-Normal
- **Package:** LB Swap
- **Play:** Under Ram Buck
- **Advantage:** This swaps outside linebackers Lance Briggs and Hunter Hillenmeyer. Briggs can use his speed to create pressure on the quarterback.

Key Offensive Plays

A I-Form-Twin WR

1st & 2nd down, short yardage



• HB Blast

Thomas Jones follows fullback Bryan Johnson through the hole between left tackle John Tait and left guard Ruben Brown. Once through the hole, lower Jones' shoulders to pick up yardage. If no hole opens up inside, look to bounce it outside.



B Singleback-Normal Slot

3rd down passing situation



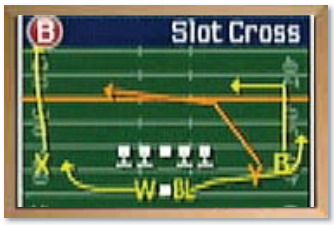
• FL Z Clearout

The pass route run by flanker Muhammad is deadly against man coverage. Once he makes his break back toward the quarterback, he will get separation from the defender. Throw him a bullet pass to the outside, by pressing hard right on the L-stick or D-pad.



C Shotgun-2RB 3WR

3rd down passing situation



• Slot Cross

Gage runs a crossing route from right to left. If the defense is in man coverage, wait for Gage to get separation on his man before making the throw. If he is covered, look to dump the ball off to Thomas Jones on the left or Bryan Johnson on the right.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Split Backs-3WR	Curls, Slot Z Out, HB Screen, Slot Cross	**Weak-Normal**	HB Inside, HB Lead, HB Draw, Counter Weak
Shotgun-Trips TE	Slot Read, PA Deep Attack, WR Corner, Slot Quick Flat	**Singleback-Trips Bunch**	HB Dive, Quick Pitch, HB Sprint, HB Draw

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Olin Kreutz	98	91	63	90
C	Patrick Mannelly	68	82	55	72
FB	Bryan Johnson	86	70	65	75
FB	Jason McKie	77	72	72	62
HB	Thomas Jones	88	76	90	86
HB	Cedric Benson	84	75	88	67
HB	Adrian Peterson	77	73	86	67
LG	Ruben Brown	87	93	44	91
LG	Steve Edwards	68	84	48	65
LT	John Tait	90	91	52	89
LT	Qasim Mitchell	76	95	47	71
QB	Rex Grossman	85	51	59	81
QB	Brian Griese	81	54	54	81
QB	Kyle Orton	75	54	55	74
RG	Terrence Metcalf	84	91	54	76

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
RG	Roberto Garza	82	89	48	75
RT	Fred Miller	86	93	47	85
RT	John St. Clair	75	88	53	75
TE	Desmond Clark	78	65	75	76
TE	John Gilmore	61	64	68	59
WR	Muhsin Muhammad	89	66	90	94
WR	Mark Bradley	80	61	92	60
WR	Justin Gage	76	65	86	64
WR	Bernard Berrian	75	46	95	61
WR	Rashied Davis	66	46	90	57

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Key Defensive Plays

A 4-3-Normal
Base defense



• Cover 2
For this scheme to work, the front four must get pressure on the QB before he has time to find the open man. The three linebackers drop back in hook zones. The right and left cornerbacks play the flats. The safeties cover the deep halves of the field.



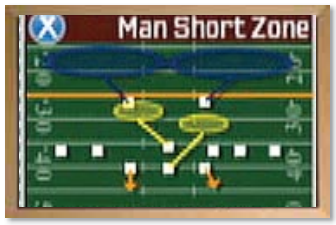
B 46-Bear
1st & 2nd aggressive



• Storm Blitz
The 46-Bear Storm Blitz sends him on a blitz from the right side of the offensive line. Usually the right tackle will look to block the right outside linebacker. If this happens, Urlacher will have a clean shot at sacking the quarterback.



C Quarter-Normal
3rd down passing situation



• Man Short Zone
This is a good defense to call to shut down drag routes. Tommie Harris lines up at nose tackle. Once the ball is snapped, he drops back in a hook zone and will be in position to defend any receiver coming over the short middle of the field.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
4-3-Over	Blizzard Blitz, Zone Pistol 3, Bullets Man 0, SS Cannon 1	**4-3-Under**	2 Man Under, 4 Deep DT Twist, Cover 4 Buzz, Cover 2
Blitz Package Setup 2	Bear Blizzard 3, Cannon Fire 3, CB Lighting, Overload Blitz	**Dime-Flats**	Cover 2, 4 Deep Safe, Cover 2 Edge, Zone Man X

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Nathan Vasher	90	52	90	82
CB	Charles Tillman	88	64	88	80
CB	Ricky Manning	86	49	90	79
CB	Dante Wesley	74	59	89	70
CB	Devin Hester	73	58	98	45
DT	Tommie Harris	91	87	74	71
DT	Ian Scott	84	86	64	74
DT	Tank Johnson	78	80	70	64
DT	Michael Haynes	75	78	68	68
FS	Chris Harris	80	59	87	64
FS	Danieal Manning	76	57	91	52
LE	Adewale Ogunleye	91	73	84	81
LE	Israel Idonije	66	75	68	52
LOLB	Hunter Hillenmeyer	79	74	73	77
LOLB	Joe Odom	69	68	76	66
MLB	Brian Urlacher	98	78	88	92
MLB	Jeremy Cain	61	67	73	60
RE	Alex Brown	88	72	82	75
RE	Mark Anderson	71	69	70	45
RROLB	Lance Briggs	91	78	78	85
ROLB	Leon Joe	65	61	83	54
SS	Mike Brown	89	57	86	87
SS	Todd Johnson	70	66	82	64

Special Teams

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
K	Robbie Gould	75	25	55	64
P	Brad Maynard	87	31	45	89

Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

Making the playoffs last year was a nice revenue boost. Let's try to keep food prices right where they are. The parking rates are reasonable and the fans aren't complaining. We've got plenty of room under the cap to make an important hire.

Team Salary: 71.1M
Cap Room: 34.M
Key Rival: Green Bay Packers
NFL Icons: Brian Urlacher
Philosophy:
- Offense: Vertical Passing
- Defense: Disrupt Passing

Prestige: Medium
Team Needs:
- Back up Quarterback
- Quarterback

Highest Paid Players:
- Cedric Benson
- Brian Urlacher

Up and Coming Players:
- Tommie Harris
- Cedric Benson

Team Trivia

Chicago Bears Facts

Answers are on the following page.

1 Who was the founder and first head coach of the Chicago Bears?

2 What Bear player was named the Offensive Rookie of the Year for 2001?

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Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:
Jim Harbaugh ('87-'93) **1,023**

• Passing Yards:
Sid Luckman ('39-'50) **14,686**

• Passing Touchdowns:
Sid Luckman ('39-'50) **137**

• Receptions:
Walter Payton ('75-'87) **492**

• Receiving Yards:
Johnny Morris ('58-'67) **5,059**

• Receiving Touchdowns:
Ken Kavanaugh ('40,'41,'45-'50) **50**

• Rushing Yards:
Walter Payton ('75-'87) **16,726**

• Rushing Touchdowns:
Walter Payton ('75-'87) **110**

Career Points Leader:
• Kevin Butler ('85-95) **1,116**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:
Richard Dent ('83-'93,'95) **124.5**

• Interceptions:
Gary Fencik ('76-'87) **38**

Team Trivia

Answers

1 George Halas founded the Bears and coached from 1920-1929, 1933-1942, 1946-1955, and 1958-1967.

2 Anthony Thomas, running back, played college ball in Michigan and won the award in 2001.

FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Canton, OH | **Starting Year:** 1920 | **League:** NFC

Franchise Beginnings

The Chicago Bears franchise was originally called the Decatur Staleys. The A.E. Staley Company of Decatur, Illinois, established the team in 1919. In 1920, George Halas took over the team and the Bears became a permanent member of the NFL. In 1921, the team relocated in Chicago. The team changed its name from the Decatur Staleys to the Chicago Staleys. In 1922, the team's name was changed again to the current name.

Notable Moments

• The "T" Formation

In the 1940 NFL Championship game against the Washington Redskins, Bears' coach George Halas unveiled his "T" formation offense. The new formation proved more than field worthy, allowing 10 different players the opportunity to score in a landside 73-0 victory. The game was the most decisive victory in pro football history.

• Super Bowl XX

The icing on a stellar season, the Bears walked into Super Bowl XX with a 15-1 regular season record. The Bears showed their strength by pouncing the New England Patriots 46-10, including a rare goal line rush for one yard by defensive tackle, William "The Fridge" Perry.

Notable Figures



Darryl Norenberg/WireImage.com

George Halas ('20-'83)

Known as "Mr. Everything" of football for his involvement as an owner, manager, player, promoter, and influential leader among the NFL's ownership, he was the only person involved with the NFL throughout its first 50 years. Mr. Halas coached the Bears for 40 seasons while collecting 6 NFL titles. His coaching career ended with 324 total victories.

Walter Payton ('75-'87)

"Sweetness" retired from the game as the all-time leader in rushing and combined net yards. Mr. Payton won the NFC rushing title five straight years, named All-Pro and All-NFC seven times, and played in nine Pro Bowl games. He was named the NFL's MVP and Offensive Player of the Year in 1977 and 1985.

Mike Singletary ('81-'92)

If all you saw were his eyes, you'd still know it was Mike Singletary. His passion for the game was evident in his stellar play on the field, shown in either leading or finishing second on the team in tackling for all 11 seasons of his career. His intensity and toughness aided him through injuries; he only missed two games during his career.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• The Bears have the **most Hall of Famers** of any team in the NFL at 26. Included in those enshrined are legendary linebacker Dick Butkus, running backs "Red" Grange and Gale Sayers, and tight end sensation and head coach, Mike Ditka.

• The 1985 Bears posted a **regular season record** of 15-1, tying the NFL record for most regular season wins. The same year the team sent an impressive nine players to the Pro Bowl, won their second straight NFC title by shutting out the Rams 24-0, and trampled the Patriots to win Super Bowl XX.

• Tight end phenomenon Mike Ditka was the **first of his position** to be inducted into the Hall of Fame. Mike Ditka also became the second man to have a Super Bowl ring as a player and head coach.

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CINCINNATI BENGALS

Division: AFC North | **Stadium:** Paul Brown Stadium | **Type:** Open | **Capacity:** 65,535 | **Surface:** Turf

2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
11	5	0	421	350	5-3	6-2	7-5	4-0	5-1

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	89
Offense	92
Defense	85

Team Rankings

Scoring	4th
Passing Offense	5th
Rushing Offense	11th
Passing Defense	26th
Rushing Defense	20th
Turnovers	1st

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• The Bengals have the most explosive offense in the AFC North and it all starts with Carson Palmer. He has become one of the top QBs in league despite only being a starter for two years. Chad Johnson is one of the most flamboyant players in the league. His ability to stretch the defense and go up for the catch makes him a home run threat any time he touches the ball.

Weaknesses

• If Carson Palmer is unable to start at the beginning of the season will Anthony Wright be able to guide the team until he returns? Wright has a strong arm, but lack of consistency has always been an issue with him. If he can steady the ship until Palmer is able to play, the Bengals will be in good shape for the playoffs.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• Cornerback Deltha O'Neal picked off 10 passes during the 2005 season. Most offenses avoid throwing his way, which allowed the Bengals to rotate pass coverages to the other side of the field to help. Middle linebacker Odell Thurman posted a team high 98 tackles and looks ready to have another outstanding season.

Weaknesses

• The Bengals ranked near the bottom in team sacks in 2005. Defensive end Justin Smith led the team with six sacks. If it were not for the 31 defensive interceptions, the Bengals pass defense may have ranked last in the league. If the Bengals want to unseat the Steelers in the tough AFC North they need to generate more of a pass rush.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Sam Adams	Bills	DT	6'4"	335
FA	NA	Dexter Jackson	Buccaneers	S	6'3"	203
FA	NA	Anthony Wright	Ravens	QB	6'1"	215
Rookie	1	Johnathon Joseph	South Carolina	CB	5'11"	187
Rookie	2	Andrew Whitworth	LSU	OT	6'7"	325



Playing As: Cincinnati Bengals

1. Carson Palmer and Chad Johnson are one of the best quarterback/receiver combinations.

2. With the defense so concentrated on stopping Johnson in the passing game, underrated running back Rudi Johnson will find plenty of holes to run through.

3. Call a lot of blitz packages. Their starting corners can handle the outside receivers on their own.

Playing Against: Cincinnati Bengals

1. Double team Johnson and force Palmer to find another receiving option.

2. Don't test cornerback Deltha O'Neal to often. More often than not, he will pick off the pass and go the other direction.

3. Unless the Bengals blitz, don't expect much of a pass rush from the defensive line.

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Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

- **Position:** DT
- **Substitution:** Bryan Robinson
- **When:** Pass situations
- **Advantage:** Defensive tackle Sam Adams is known for his run stuffing abilities, but he has never been much of a pass rusher. In the Dime Normal and Flat formations, sub Bryan Robinson in for Adams

- **Position:** 3DRB
- **Substitution:** Chris Perry
- **When:** Pass situations.
- **Advantage:** Rudi Johnson is a great running back when it comes to pounding the ball, but he does not have the speed or hands to be effective catching the ball out of the backfield.

- **Position:** LOLB
- **Substitution:** Landon Johnson
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** David Pollack is a solid linebacker, but lacks the speed to blitz off the edge or drop back in pass coverage. Landon Johnson has the speed be an effective pass rusher from the outside and also has the athletic ability to cover the elite tight ends in the game.

Fantasy Outlook

- **Star:** Chad Johnson
- **Draft:** 2nd round
- **2006 Outlook:** How many yards and touchdowns Johnson puts up in 2006 will be determined by Palmer's status. If Palmer plays, expect great numbers,

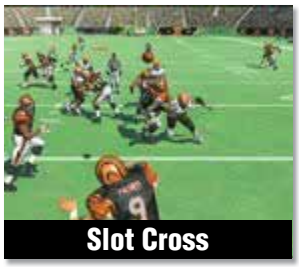
- **Star:** Carson Palmer
- **Draft:** 2nd round
- **2006 Outlook:** As long as his knee holds up, he is the second or third best fantasy quarterback. Keep an eye on him during training camp .

Star Players

Carson Palmer • Quarterback (QB) #9

Showcase Plays for Palmer

I Form-Normal



- Against zone coverage, keep your eye on the slot receivers running crossing routes. The slot receiver lined up on the left runs a deep crossing route, while the slot receiver on the right runs a shallow crossing route. Watch to see how the linebackers drop into pass coverage. If they drop back to cover the slot on the left, throw to the slot on the right underneath.

Strong-Normal



- This play is highly effective after the run game has been established. Once Palmer fakes the handoff to the halfback, look to throw the ball to the flanker running the dig in route. If the defense is in man coverage, make sure the flanker gets a step on the defender before making the throw.



Key Attributes

Throw Power	97
Throw Accuracy	95
Awareness	89
Speed	56

In just three years since coming out of USC, Palmer has asserted himself as one of the best field generals in the league. He has all the tools to be a perennial Pro Bowler for years to come provided that he can come back from the knee injury he sustained in the playoffs last year against the Steelers. The Bengals are betting that he can and so are we.

Chad Johnson • Wide Receiver (WR) #85

Showcase Plays for Johnson

Split Backs-Normal PA



- Johnson is a big physical receiver who can fly down the field. The post route he runs is highly effective against cover 0 coverage (meaning no safeties are deep). Once he makes the break to the post, throw him a high bullet pass so he can go up high and snag the ball out of the air. Expect to pick up 20 to 25 yards.

Singleback-Trips WR PA



- He is not afraid to go over the middle to make the tough catches. This play is a rock solid play to call when you are inside the 5-yard line and need to score. This play has him running a drag route from right to left. Once he gets separation from the defender covering him, make the throw. Be sure to throw the ball over the top of the defensive linemen.



Key Attributes

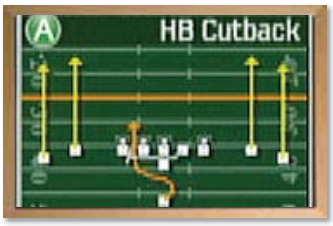
Acceleration	95
Awareness	92
Catching	96
Speed	96

Is there a more flamboyant receiver in the league than Chad Johnson? Unlike his counterpart in Dallas, Johnson's antics on and off the field are mostly positive. Often his behavior motivates his teammates to perform better on the field. In 2005, he ranked third in receiving yardage with 1,432 yards and fifth in receptions with 97.

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Key Offensive Plays

A Singleback-Flex 4WR
1st & 2nd down, running situation



• HB Cutback
If you are having a hard time running from base formations, trying spreading the defense out by calling Singleback-Flex 4WR HB Cut. Underrated running back Johnson is a good north-south runner. All it takes to get him going is one cut to pick up positive yardage.



B Singleback-Tight Slots
3rd & long, passing situations



• WR Corners
This play has receivers Chad and T.J. Houshmandzadeh running corner routes on both sides of the field. Against Cover 0, Cover 1, and Cover 2 coverage, one of them will be open. If the defense plays Cover 4, look to one of the receivers running slant hooks. .



C Shotgun-Trips
3rd and long pass situation



• SE Under
The Shotgun-Trips SE Under has T.J. Houshmandzadeh running a drag route underneath. Look for him if the coverage drops over the top. If the coverage plays in front of him, look for Johnson running the post route on the right side for a big play downfield.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Weak I-Close	PA Boot Slide, PA Boot Lt, TE Cross, WR Drag	**Singleback-Big Wing**	HB Dive, HB Stretch, HB Counter, HB Pitch
Shotgun-4WR	PA Deep Outs, Curl Flats, Slot Comebacks	**Singleback-Trips Bunch**	HB Dive, Quick Pitch, HB Sprint, HB Draw

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Rich Braham	87	93	46	90
C	Eric Ghiaciuc	73	88	52	55
FB	Jeremi Johnson	87	72	68	65
HB	Rudi Johnson	92	79	87	89
HB	Chris Perry	83	70	90	70
HB	Kenny Watson	72	65	86	64
LG	Eric Steinbach	91	88	58	87
LG	Larry Moore	72	87	44	72
LT	Levi Jones	91	89	62	84
LT	Andrew Whitworth	72	93	43	64
QB	Carson Palmer	95	63	56	89
QB	Anthony Wright	79	55	69	73
QB	Doug Johnson	72	53	47	75
RG	Bobbie Williams	80	93	44	78
RG	Scott Kooistra	77	90	47	72

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
RT	Willie Anderson	95	97	49	97
RT	Adam Kieft	68	92	44	52
RT	Stacy Andrews	62	88	48	38
TE	Reggie Kelly	77	74	66	73
TE	Tony Stewart	73	69	70	68
WR	Chad Johnson	97	60	96	92
WR	T.J. Houshmandzadeh	87	64	88	85
WR	Chris Henry	80	50	92	60
WR	Kelley Washington	76	62	90	63
WR	Antonio Chatman	74	49	91	69
WR	Tab Perry	69	59	88	48

Coaching Profile

Marvin Lewis

- **Head Coaching Year:** 4th
- **Experience:** Six seasons as the Ravens defensive coordinator from 1996 through 2001

Since becoming the Bengals head coach in 2003, he has compiled a 27-22 record. Last season he led the Bengals to an 11-5 record and trip into the playoffs for the first time since 1990. The fan base in Cincinnati has been rejuvenated because of what Lewis brings to the table.

Detailed Package Info

Cincinnati Bengals

- **Formation:**: Singleback-Big Wing
- **Package:** Jumbo
- **Play:** Houshmandzadeh Option
- **Advantage:** This subs fullback Jeremi Johnson in the backfield behind Carson Palmer. Having him line up in the backfield adds an extra pass blocker to the mix.

.

- **Formation:** Shotgun-Normal
- **Package:** Spell HB
- **Play:** HB Screen
- **Advantage:** Rudi Johnson is a good runner between the tackles, but he isn't much of a threat as a pass catcher out of the backfield. This package subs in Chris Perry, who is electric in the open field.

- **Formation:** Nickel-3-3-5
- **Package:** 4th CB
- **Play:** Cover 3 Tag
- **Advantage:** This adds an extra cornerback into pass coverage. Cornerback Johnathon Joseph lines up at strong safety.

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Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

Fans are generally happy with the ticket prices. We've got plenty of room under the cap to make an important hire. Our coaches' salaries are competitive with the rest of the league. Our focus should remain on returning to the playoffs.

Team Salary: 72.9M
Cap Room: 32.5M
Key Rival: Cleveland Browns
NFL Icons: Chad Johnson
Philosophy:
- Offense: Vertical Passing
- Defense: Disrupt Passing

Prestige: Medium
Team Needs:
- Linebacker
- Defensive Line

Highest Paid Players:
- Carson Palmer
- Chad Johnson

Up and Coming Players:
- Johnathon Joseph
- Chris Perry

Team Trivia

Cincinnati Bengals Facts

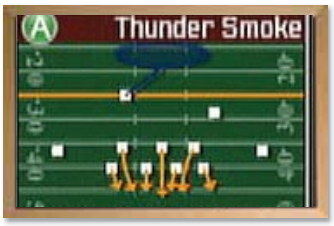
Answers are on the following page.

❶ What Cincinnati Bengal is responsible for the tackle that basically ended Bo Jackson's career?

❷ What lanky wide receiver did the Bengals draft with their second round pick in 1980?

Key Defensive Plays

A 4-3-Normal
1st &2nd down, attack the run



• Thunder Smoke
This is an excellent defense to call to stop the inside run. All three linebackers are sent in on a blitz and do a good job at closing down the inside running lanes. If the offense decides to drop back and pass, the linebacker will bring intense heat on the QB.



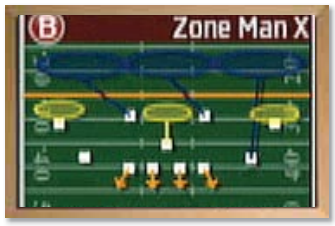
B Nickel-Normal
2nd & 3rd down, passing situation



• Over Storm Brave
Cornerbacks O'Neal and James do a good job at locking down receivers. This lets you to call more blitz packages than some other teams. Both LBs blitz up the gut. The offensive line will block inside, which enables the defensive ends to get pressure.



C Dime-Flats
3rd down & passing situation



• Zone Max X
This defense can be somewhat confusing to a player controlling the QB on offense. Once the ball is snapped, the first read seems to be zone coverage, but that assumption is not correct. The inside defensive back is in man coverage on the X receiver.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
46 Bear	Bengal Fire 3, Plug Cover 1, Wall Stunt, Wall Cover 4	**4-3-Normal**	Cover 3, DBL QB Spy 2, 4 Deep Quarters, Cover 2 Tag
Nickel-Normal	Engage 8, CB Fox 1, Over Strorm Brave	**Dime-Normal**	2 Man Under, Cover 3, Over 4 Lurk, Quarters Zone

2005–06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Deltha O'Neal	90	52	95	78
CB	Tory James	87	64	86	86
CB	Johnathan Joseph	80	53	94	62
CB	Keiwan Ratliff	77	43	88	63
CB	Rashad Bauman	69	42	90	55
DT	Sam Adams	89	96	47	91
DT	John Thornton	86	86	62	80
DT	Bryan Robinson	80	79	58	80
DT	Shaun Smith	70	87	59	54
DT	Matthias Askew	69	85	64	44
FS	Madieu Williams	86	63	88	66
FS	Kevin Kaesviharn	79	60	80	81
LE	Justin Smith	86	81	74	78
LE	Frostee Rucker	72	72	61	61
LOLB	Landon Johnson	83	68	81	74

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
LOLB	David Pollack	82	76	77	74
LOLB	Hannibal Navies	78	70	76	76
MLB	Odell Thurman	86	76	84	79
MLB	A.J. Nicholson	62	74	78	48
MLB	Caleb Miller	73	78	75	64
RE	Robert Geathers	76	68	75	66
RE	Jonathan Fanene	73	79	67	62
ROLB	Brian Simmons	87	71	82	85
ROLB	Caleb Miller	73	75	75	64
SS	Dexter Jackson	84	54	85	84
SS	Anthony Mitchell	73	63	84	70
Special Teams					
K	Shayne Graham	90	32	62	78
P	Kyle Larson	76	42	54	62

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Franchise Beginnings

The team's roots in Cincinnati actually stretch back to 1937, but it wasn't until 1968 when the Bengals franchise that exists today joined the American Football League as an expansion team. By 1970, the Bengals won the AFC Central Division to become the first expansion team to win a championship of any kind in just three years. In the early 1980s, the team updated its uniforms–adopting the now—familiar orange and black-stripe color scheme—and reached the Super Bowl in 1981 and 1988. Last season, the Bengals made the playoffs for the first time since 1990.

Notable Moments

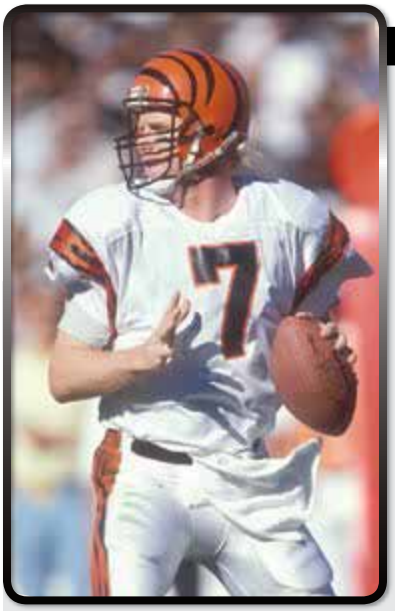
• The Freezer Bowl

On January 10, 1982, the Bengals defeated the San Diego Chargers in the AFC Championship Game, 27-7. It was the coldest game ever played in NFL history. The wind chill factor brought the game-time temperature down to _56 degrees Fahrenheit. The game has entered NFL lore as the Freezer Bowl.

• The Sequel: Super Bowl XXIII

On January 22, 1989, the Bengals again faced the San Francisco 49ers, and for a second time fell short with a final score of 16-20. Cincinnati held a 16-13 lead with less than 4 minutes left, only to fall victim to a memorable drive spearheaded by 49ers quarterback Joe Montana.

Notable Figures



Peter Brouillet/WireImage.com

Boomer Esiason ('84-'92, '97)

Esiason enjoyed a very successful career in Cincinnati. From 1984-1992 (as well as in 1997), this left-handed quarterback passed for 27,149 yards and 187 touchdowns. He was named the NFL's Most Valuable Player in 1988 for his role in taking the Bengals to Super Bowl XXIII. Currently, he is a well-known TV football analyst.

Cris Collinsworth (1981-1988)

Chris Collinsworth was known as a tall, lanky, and affable wide receiver. He was a three-time Pro Bowler and one of the big reasons why the Bengals were so successful in the '80s. Collinsworth finished his eight NFL seasons with 417 receptions for 6,698 yards and 36 touchdowns in 107 games.

Paul Brown ('68-'91)

Although Brown is in the Hall of Fame for his tenure as head coach of the Cleveland Browns, he also played a role in bringing the Bengals franchise to Cincinnati. Brown coached the Bengals from its debut in 1968 through 1975, and he helped the Bengals earn an AFC Central Division championship in 1970 and 1973.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• The Bengals home field in its first two seasons was **Nippert Stadium**, which has been the home of the University of Cincinnati Bearcats football team for nearly 90 years.

• There was a push in the mid-1960s to name the team the **Buckeyes**, but the name was rejected to avoid any confusion with the college football team at Ohio State University.

• The Bengals have **retired only one number**: #54 (Bob Johnson). Johnson, a center from the University of Tennessee, was the Bengals' first-ever draft pick in 1968 and played 12 seasons from 1968-1979.

• The Bengals mascot is a feisty tiger named "**Who Dey**." Who Dey's favorite foods (we swear we are not making this up) are fried raven, dried dawg on toast, and salted steelers.

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:
Ken Anderson ('71-'86) **2,654**

• Passing Yards:
Ken Anderson ('71-'86) **32,838**

• Passing Touchdowns:
Ken Anderson ('71-'86) **197**

• Receptions:
Carl Pickens ('92-'99) **530**

• Receiving Yards:
Isaac Curtis ('73-'84) **7,101**

• Receiving Touchdowns:
Carl Pickens ('92-'99) **63**

• Rushing Yards:
Corey Dillon ('97-'03) **8,061**

• Rushing Touchdowns:
Pete Johnson ('77-'83) **64**

• Career Points Leader:
Jim Breech ('80-'82) **1,151**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:
Eddie Edwards ('77-'88) **83.5**

• Interceptions:
Ken Riley ('69-'83) **65**

Team Trivia

Answers

❶ Bo was striding forward when Kevin Walker grabbed his back leg, pulling the hip from its socket.

❷ Cris Collinsworth from the Florida Gators.

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BUFFALO BILLS

Division: AFC East | **Stadium:** Ralph Wilson Stadium | **Type:** Open | **Capacity:** 73,967 | **Surface:** AstroPlay



2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
5	11	0	271	367	4-4	1-7	5-7	0-4	2-4

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	84
Offense	82
Defense	87

Team Rankings

Scoring	24th
Passing Offense	29th
Rushing Offense	20th
Passing Defense	19th
Rushing Defense	31st
Turnovers	13th

TEAM STRATEGY

Playing As: Buffalo Bills

1. Make a game plan beforehand. The Bills have talent, but not enough playmakers to let you take unnecessary risks.
2. Establish the run with Willis McGahee and then work out to the pass game through play action.
3. On defense, take advantage of Takeo Spikes and how he can change a game with his ability.

Playing Against: Buffalo Bills

1. Quarterback is the weak area of this team, so bring pressure and be prepared to make interceptions as the ball flies in many different directions.
2. Stop Willis McGahee and the offense will struggle to produce touchdowns.
3. Go for the early lead to force the Bills to play from behind. This will cause them to blitz more and leave big plays open for your offense.

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• HB Willis McGahee and WR Lee Evans are the only proven performers on the team now that veteran receiver Eric Moulds is gone. The Duo has a third person and this year J.P Losman hopes to perform to expectations and turn the group into a dangerous trio. The Bills have a group of quarterbacks set to fight for the starting job, so this should help raise each player's level.

Weaknesses

• Now that Eric Moulds is gone, is Lee Evans ready to step up and take all the attention of being the number-one receiver?. And who is going to emerge as the starting QB for the team? With three quarterbacks with different qualities, someone will have to take over and show himself to be the man. We will know in the first half of the season.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• The defense got a lot younger this year when the team used the first five draft picks to replenish this side of the ball. They added Safety Donte Whitner from Ohio State who should contribute right away. They also added DT Larry Tripplett and Safety Matt Bowen through free agency. The new additions should help the defense get back to the number-two defense ranking.

Weaknesses

• Youth is often an asset, but it can also be a serious problem if it is exposed. The Bills hope that the loss of Sam Adams and Lawyer Willoy can be adequately replaced by the youth they have added. If not, it's going to be a long year.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Peerless Price	Cowboys	WR	5'11"	190
FA	NA	Larry Triplett	Colts	DT	6'2"	295
FA	NA	Anthony Thomas	Saints	RB	6'2"	225
Rookie	1	Donte Whitner	Ohio State	S	5'10"	203
Rookie	1	John McCargo	N.C. State	DT	6'2"	301

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Willis McGahee • HalfBack (HB) #21

Showcase Plays for McGahee

Singleback-Trips Bunch



HB Counter

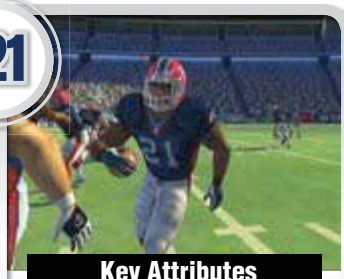
• Willis McGahee proves just how good a back he is when running the Trips Bunch HB Counter. His speed and explosiveness through the hole makes this play a frequent call to use with the Bills. Once McGahee gets the hand off he needs to follow the FB, who will seal everything inside, and then McGahee can hit the corner or turn straight up field.

Singleback-Slot Strong



HB Screen

• When a team has a back who can catch out of the backfield and explode after the catch, they have to take advantage of it. The HB Screen puts McGahee in a situation for success. The play starts off very quickly, and as soon as the screen blockers are in position, the ball is thrown to McGahee and he is set to run to daylight.



Key Attributes

Acceleration	95
Agility	97
Break Tackle	94
Speed	89

McGahee is an explosive back with great power. He can take the regular five-yard run and turn it into a long touchdown. His hands are good and in general he is needed to make the offense run like clockwork. Once McGahee is on a roll he can make things tough for any defense.

Lee Evans • Wide Receiver (WR) #83

Showcase Plays for Evans

I Form-Normal



Mid Attack

• Lee Evans is a solid route runner with good hands, and when our offense has this combo in a receiver we smell a comeback route. The I Form-Normal Mid Attack puts Lee Evans on the outside running a comeback. While running the route Evans will break the DB's cushion and turn back to the QB to make the catch.

Singleback-Big Twin WR



Croos Up

• The Twin WR Cross Up assigns Evans the corner route and lets him showcase his skill. When the ball is hiked, Evans gets free by crossing routes with the outside receiver. Once he's open, the quarterback hits him for the first down as Evans double taps at the sideline..



Key Attributes

Acceleration	96
Awareness	78
Catching	88
Speed	96

Over the years the Bills have had Eric Moulds to look to in the receiver position but now it's Lee Evans time. Evans is a talented receiver who can beat you in all aspects of the game. He can beat you with his route running or by turning on the jets and running past a defender.

Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

- **Position:** WR
- **Substitution:** Roscoe Parrish
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** Parrish is faster and has better hands than Peerless Price. Add him to the starting line up to increase your speed and chances of making the catch

- **Position:** TE
- **Substitution:** Ashton Youboty
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** We are always looking at speed and catching ability when scouting our receivers and tight ends. Everett, even though a rookie, is more of a threat then our current backup Brad Cieslak.

- **Position:** CB
- **Substitution:** Ashton Youboty
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** This is a no brainer. We drafted a high-quality corner and he comes in with better skills then current nickel back Eric King. He is faster and stronger than King and is the second-best tackling corner on the team.

Fantasy Outlook

- **Star:** Willis McGahee
- **Draft:** 2nd
- **2006 Outlook:** On a team with a great offensive line, McGahee could be one of the top three fantasy backs in the league. Expect him to rack up 1,200 yards and 10 TDs this season.

- **Star:** Lee Evans
- **Draft:** 8th
- **2006 Outlook:** Evans is now the number one receiving threat in Buffalo. That means he is going to get his share of balls thrown his away. He should be good for 1,000 yards and a handful of scores.

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Coaching Profile

Dick Jauron

- **Head Coaching Year:** 1st
- **Experience:** Served three seasons as head coach of the Chicago Bears

Most recently, Jauron was the Lions' defensive coordinator for two seasons and the interim head coach for the final five games of the 2005 season. From 1999-2003, Jauron served as the head coach for the Chicago Bears. The highlight of his Bears'

TEAM STRATEGY

Detailed Package Info

Buffalo Bills

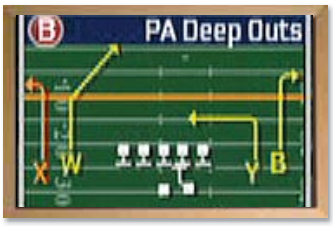
- **Formation:** Split Backs-3WR
- **Package:** Dual HB
- **Play:** FB Dive
- **Advantage**: Instead of running the dive with our FB, we bring in our second HB and make this play into a HB Dive.

- **Formation:** Split Backs-3WR
- **Package:** Stack Strong
- **Play:** Price Option
- **Advantage**: With this package we can get our top two receivers lined up together and create a mismatch by having one of our receivers against a lower rated defender.

- **Formation:** Nickel-3-3-5
- **Package:** OLB Flip
- **Play:** 2-Man Under
- **Advantage:** Most of the time this will assign Takeo Spikes to protect the right side of the field in the flat or when a back sneaks out of the backfield.

Key Offensive Plays

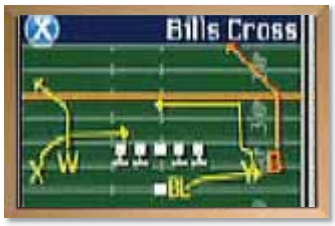
A Shotgun-4WR
2nd and 3rd down



• PA Deep Outs
The outside receivers Price and Evans run the deep out routes well, and if they are not open we can go to the post or the crossing route by the slots. After the play action fake we hit Lee Evans on the right deep out, for a first down.



B Shotgun-4WR
2nd and 3rd down



• Bills Cross
The route he is running in this play is one of the most open routes in the game. We let him beat his defender and get inside position. Once he makes his break inside, we throw the ball. Reed catches the ball in the soft spot of the zone for a first down.



C Strong I-Normal
1st and 2nd down



• HB Stretch
We use the HB Stretch to make the defense respect our running game. McGahee takes the handoff, stays patient, follows his blocks, and then accelerates up the sideline for a touchdown.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Singleback-Trips WR	WR Option, WR Hook Out, Comebacks, WR Deep In	**Weak-I Normal**	HB Draw, HB Off Tackle, FB Power, HB Gut
Split Backs 3WR	WR Option, HB Option, 2 Jet FI Drive, Slot Cross	**Singleback-Trips Bunch**	HB Draw, HB Counter Bunch Reverse, Quick Pitch

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

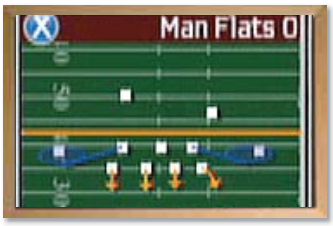
Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Melvin Fowler	80	85	54	76
C	Duke Preston	74	85	53	65
FB	Daimon Shelton	76	75	62	68
HB	Willis McGahee	90	78	89	81
HB	Anthony Thomas	76	75	83	75
HB	Shaud Williams	71	52	88	62
HB	Lionel Gates	71	68	85	52
LG	Tutan Reyes	77	90	47	72
LG	Justin Geisinger	68	90	49	55
LT	Mike Gandy	74	88	49	68
LT	Matt Morgan	68	84	50	61
QB	Kelly Holcomb	79	50	52	84
QB	J.P. Losman	77	56	70	67
QB	Craig Nall	76	58	60	68
RG	Chris Villarrial	88	94	48	90

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
RG	Jason Thomas	67	89	46	62
RT	Jason Peters	82	91	58	74
RT	Aaron Gibson	72	95	41	68
TE	Robert Royal	79	70	75	72
TE	Kevin Everett	72	64	74	50
TE	Tim Euhus	69	64	71	56
WR	Lee Evans	87	52	96	78
WR	Andre Davis	79	47	95	72
WR	Peerless Price	77	50	92	74
WR	Josh Reed	76	51	85	74
WR	Roscoe Parrish	76	42	94	54
WR	Sam Aiken	68	49	83	56

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Key Defensive Plays

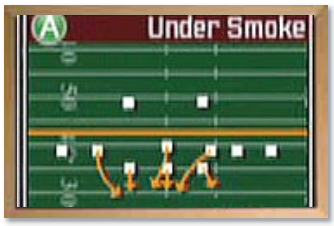
A 4-3-Normal
1st & 2nd down



• Man Flats
The Bills have a very solid defense. We use this defense to prevent our opponent from attacking us with the backs out of the backfield. We have Spikes and Posey playing flat zones and Fletcher will man up the back out of the backfield.



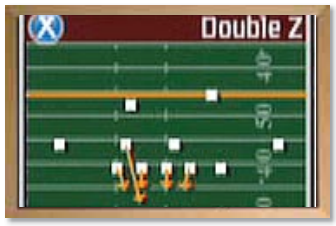
B Quarter-Normal
3rd & long, passing situation



• Under Smoke
We bump and run the receivers and let the blitzing defenders take care of the rest. Our main blitzer is Eric King, and at the snap he rushes in to make the hit on the quarterback and get the sack.



C 4-3-Under
3rd & long, passing situation



• Double Z
Versus big sets other then singleback we like to run the Double Z. This play brings pressure with Takeo Spikes and Aaron Schobel. Because of the defensive line alignment, Schobel gets free around the edge and sacks the QB.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
4-3 Under	Bonzai Blitz, DBL Safety Stab, Edge Sting Spike, Free Fire	**4-3 Under**	Cover 1 Hang, Cover 3, 4 Deep DT Stunt, DE Contain
Nickel-Strong	Nickel Blitz, FS SNake Blitz 3, Rambo Smoke, Strong Stud 1	**Quarter-3 Deep**	2 Man Under, Cover 3, Under Man Zone, Man Up 3 Deep

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Nate Clements	90	64	92	82
CB	Terrence McGee	87	49	94	83
CB	Ashton Youboty	76	54	92	59
CB	Eric King	73	44	90	64
CB	Jabari Greer	69	41	91	55
DT	Larry Tripplett	85	84	65	76
DT	Tim Anderson	77	84	55	72
DT	John McCargo	75	82	66	55
DT	Lauvale Sape	70	76	65	67
FS	Troy Vincent	88	54	85	90
FS	Rashad Baker	77	55	86	66
FS	Ko Simpson	76	64	89	47
LE	Chris Kelsay	78	74	69	75
LE	Ryan Denney	76	81	65	77
LOLB	Jeff Posey	84	74	77	85
LOLB	Mario Haggan	74	69	75	68
MLB	London Fletcher	92	68	78	93
MLB	Liam Ezekiel	64	80	74	51
RE	Aaron Schobel	91	79	74	83
RE	Mark Word	78	76	72	70
ROLB	Takeo Spikes	95	84	82	92
ROLB	Angelo Crowell	76	73	75	68
SS	Matt Bowen	78	62	84	78
SS	Coy Wire	75	65	85	68

Special Teams

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
K	Rian Lindell	84	16	48	76
P	Brian Moorman	98	46	59	80

Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

We desperately need to make the playoffs this year. We should leave the parking prices where they are for now. Merchandise sales and prices are very close to the league average. We've got cap room. Now's not the time to be cheap.

Team Salary: 65.5M
Cap Room: 39.9M
Key Rival: Miami Dolphins
NFL Icons: Takeo Spikes
Philosophy:
- Offense: Vertical Passing
- Defense: Disrupt Passing

Prestige: Medium Low
Team Needs:
- Quarterback
- Offensive Line

Highest Paid Players:
- Donte Whitner
- Takeo Spikes

Up and Coming Players:
- Donte Whitner
- Ashton Youboty

Team Trivia

Buffalo Bills Facts

Answers are on the following page.

1 Which team was Marv Levy head coach for before the Bills?

2 What college did Bills great Thurman Thomas attend?

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Buffalo, NY | **Starting Year:** 1959 | **League:** AFC

Franchise Beginnings

Team president Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. named the team the Bills after a contest in 1946—the winning entry noted that western legend William "Buffalo Bill" Cody blazed a new trail for the American frontier in the same way the team did for football in Buffalo. On October 28, 1959, the American Football League granted its seventh franchise to Buffalo. The Bills were a dominating force in the early 1990s, becoming the first team in NFL history to appear in four straight Super Bowls.

Notable Moments

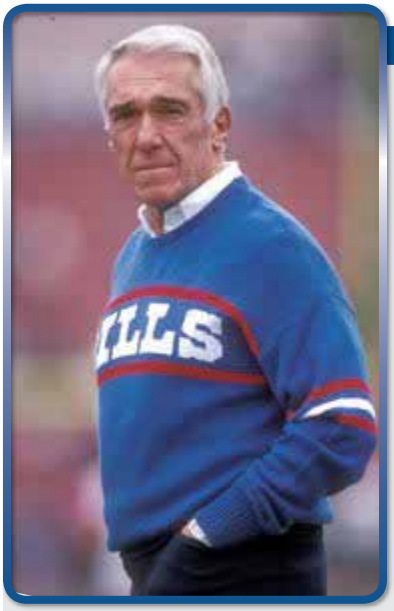
• Super Bowl XXV

In one of the most exciting Super Bowls in history, the Buffalo Bills lost to the New York Giants, 19-20 on January 27, 1991, in Tampa, Florida. With eight seconds left in the game, a field goal kick by Scott Norwood sailed wide right.

• Wild Card Game vs. Houston Oilers

On January 3, 1993, quarterback Frank Reich led the Bills back from a 35-3 deficit to win 41-38 in overtime over Houston in an AFC wild card game. It is arguably the greatest comeback ever made by a team in NFL history.

Notable Figures



Peter Brouillet/WireImage.com

Marv Levy ('86-'97)

Levy was named the Bills head coach midway through the 1986 season, and in just two years turned the franchise around to a 12-4 record. Levy led the Bills to four consecutive Super Bowl appearances and remains the coach with the most wins in team history. He was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2001.

Jim Kelly ('86-'96)

After a stint in the now-defunct USFL, Jim Kelly officially joined the Bills just before the 1986 season. He quickly emerged as one of the top quarterbacks in the NFL, passing for more than 3,000 yards in eight different seasons. He was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2002.

O.J. Simpson ('69-'77)

The Bills selected Simpson as the number one player in the 1969 draft. He recorded a sensational 1973 season when he became the first back in history to rush for 2,000-plus yards. Simpson led the league in rushing in 1972, 1973, 1975, and 1976. He joined the Hall of Fame in 1985.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• The Bills have a **Wall of Fame** to honor former players, administrators, and coaches who have played key roles in the team's history. There are 20 inductees—including a special "The 12th Man" to honor Bills fans who set the NFL record for single-season home attendance (635,889) in 1991.

• The Bills' **first pre-NFL championship** was a 20-7 victory over the San Diego Chargers for the 1964 AFL title.

• Other notable Hall of Fame inductees for the Bills include **Joe Delamielleure** and **James Lofton** (both inducted in 2003) and **Billy Shaw** (inducted in 1999).

• The Buffalo Bills original team colors were **royal blue** and **silver**—the team's latest uniforms were introduced in June of 2002.

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:
Jim Kelly ('86-'96) **2,874**

• Passing Yards:
Jim Kelly ('86-'96) **35,467**

• Passing Touchdowns:
Jim Kelly ('86-'96) **237**

• Receptions:
Andre Reed ('85-'99) **941**

• Receiving Yards:
Andre Reed ('85-'99) **13,095**

• Receiving Touchdowns:
Andre Reed ('85-'99) **86**

• Rushing Yards:
Thurman Thomas ('88-'99) **11,938**

• Rushing Touchdowns:
Thurman Thomas ('88-'99) **65**

• Career Points Leader:
Steve Christie ('92-'00) **1,011**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:
Bruce Smith ('85-'99) **171**

• Interceptions:
George Byrd ('64-'70) **40**

Team Trivia

Answers

1 Levy coached the Chiefs from 1978-1982 and the Bills from 1986-1997. He failed to make the playoffs with the Chiefs, but he did pull them up.

2 Incredible as it seems, Thomas was a college teammate of the great Barry Sanders at Oklahoma St. in the '80s.

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DENVER BRONCOS

Division: AFC West | **Stadium:** Invesco Field at Mile High | **Type:** Open | **Capacity:** 76,125 | **Surface:** Grass

2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
13	3	0	395	258	8-0	5-3	10-2	3-1	5-1

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	89
Offense	88
Defense	90

Team Rankings

Scoring	7th
Passing Offense	18th
Rushing Offense	2nd
Passing Defense	29th
Rushing Defense	2nd
Turnovers	3rd

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• Jake Plummer had his best season as an NFL QB in 2005. The Broncos designed plays that allowed him to roll out of the pocket. He rewarded them by completing more than 60% of his passes. Rod Smith is back for another year. Last season he caught 85 passes and picked up 1,105 yards. Javon Walker adds another weapon to Plummer's arsenal.

Weaknesses

• The Broncos have always had a good rushing attack. However, there are there question marks about who will carry the load. Giant's castoff Rod Dayne will get first crack as the starter, but he did not do much in the Big Apple. In his first season with the Broncos, he did show some flashes of greatness. If Dayne does not make the grade, Tatum Bell is ready to step in.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• The Broncos arguably have the best trio of linebackers in the league. Outside linebackers Ian Gold and D.J. Williams just fly to the ball. They both have the speed to blitz or drop back in pass coverage. Middle linebacker Al Wilson does a solid job at plugging up the middle. Last season he had 72 tackles. Champ Bailey is one of the true shutdown corners in the game.

Weaknesses

• Free safety John Lynch and strong safety Nick Ferguson are both over 30 years old. They do not have the same speed they once had and now have to rely on their instincts to make plays. Losing defensive end Trevor Pryce to free agency stings not only on the field, but also in the locker room where he was a leader. Ebenezer Ekuban replaces Pryce as the full time starter.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Kenard Lang	Browns	LB	6'3"	257
FA	NA	Javon Walker	Packers	WR	6'3"	215
FA	NA	Nate Webster	Bengals	LB	6'0"	235
Rookie	1	Jay Cutler	Vanderbilt	QB	6'4"	225
Rookie	2	Tony Scheffler	W. Michigan	TE	6'5"	250



Playing As: Denver Broncos

1. Call rollouts and bootlegs to get Jake Plummer outside of the tackles where he can use his athletic ability to make something positive happen with his arm or legs.

2. Javon Walker and Rod Smith are one of the best receiver combinations in the game. Look to get the ball into their hands often.

3. Bring both safeties down in the box to help defend against the run. may not be as good.

Playing Against: Denver Broncos

1. Force Jake Plummer to stay in the pocket where he is not as dangerous.

2. Don't test Champ Bailey unless you have an elite receiver who can challenge him.

3. Look to attack free safety John Lynch and strong safety Nick Ferguson deep. Neither of them have the speed to keep up with fast receivers in coverage.

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Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

- **Position:** QB
- **Substitution:** Jay Cutler
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** The Broncos are not ready to hand the reins off to Jay Cutler just yet and neither are we, but will do suggest moving him up to the number-two spot on the depth chart ahead of Bradlee Van Pelt.

- **Position:** HB
- **Substitution:** Ron Dayne
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** This move really depends on the style of offense you plan on running. If you plan on pounding the ball inside as the primary way to move the ball on the ground, moving Ron Dayne in as the starter over Tatum Bell makes sense.

- **Position:**TE
- **Substitution:** Tony Scheffler
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** Tony Scheffler may only be a rookie, but he has the skills to be an immediate impact player for the Broncos at tight end. His speed rating is an 82 and his catch rating is a 76

Fantasy Outlook

- **Star:** Jake Plummer
- **Draft:** 9th
- **2006 Outlook:** Jake Plummer had one of his best seasons in 2005. With the addition of Javon Walker, his numbers should be even better. He is a solid fantasy backup quarterback.

- **Star:** Javon Walker
- **Draft:** 6th
- **2006 Outlook:** A change of scenery should do him wonders. He may not put up the same type of numbers he did in Green Bay in 2004, but a 1,000 yard season should be in reach.

TEAM STRATEGY

Star Players

Javon Walker • Wide Receiver (WR) #84

Showcase Plays for Walker

I Form-Twin WR



Slant Posts

• This play has Walker running a post corner route, while fellow receiver Rod Smith runs a corner post. Against Cover 2 zone coverage, Smith will often draw the free safety towards him. This leaves Walker wide open once he breaks to the corner for a big pick up.

Singleback-Empty



Trey Under Seams

• Walker has a great knack for catching the ball on underneath pass routes and then picking up yardage with his speed. The Singleback-Empty Trey Under Seams has him running an in route from the left side. Once he cuts over the middle of the field, rifle him a fastball. His route works best against man coverage.



Key Attributes

Acceleration	93
Awareness	84
Catching	88
Speed	92

Javon Walker has the frame and build to be a special player in Denver, but he needs to rebound from his injury last year. With a new a contract, Walker looks to expand on his 2004 season numbers when he caught 89 passes for 1,382 yards as a Packer. If he is able to achieve those type of numbers in Denver, the Broncos have a good shot at getting to the Super Bowl.

Champ Bailey • Cornerback (CB) #24

Showcase Plays for Bailey

4-3-Under



Cover 1 Robber

• Champ Bailey is more than capable of locking down his man. This allows the defense to call more blitz packages because of his pass coverage skills. The 4-3-Under Cover 1 sends the LOLB on a blitz from the right side of the offensive line. The free safety rotates over the deep middle and the strong safety plays a hook zone (robber) underneath.

Nickel-3-3-5



CB Fox Blitz 3

• Bailey is not known for his blitzing ability, but with his speed he is a good choice to bring unexpected heat from the outside. If the quarterback tries to roll outside as he does in the screen shot, Bailey will be there to bring him down.



Key Attributes

Acceleration	98
Awareness	93
Catching	82
Speed	98

When experts talk about the best cornerbacks in the game today, Champ Bailey's name is always among the first ones mentioned. Bailey has good size for a cornerback and can use it to lock down opposing receivers. Despite most teams throwing away from his side, he still managed to pick off 8 passes in '05.

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Key Offensive Plays

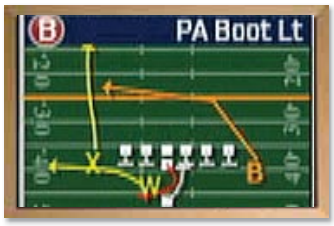
A I Form-Normal
1st & 2nd down



• Strong Stretch
The offensive line blocks to the right side, which creates room for the ball carrier to run. The outside receivers both act as if they are running routes. This creates room to run to the outside for big yardage.



B Weak I-Close
1st & 2nd down



• PA Boot Lt
Plummer is best when getting outside of the pocket to make plays. This play has him rolling to his left. Rod Smith runs a deep crossing route from right to left and is Plummer's primary target. Wait for Smith to get separation and then zip him the ball.



C Shotgun-Empty
1st and 2nd down & short



• Inside Crosses
Against man coverage, the Shotgun-Empty Inside Crosses works well because the two receivers running crossing routes often pick off the men covering them. When this happens, one or both will be open for a quick throw from Plummer.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
I Form-Normal	Slants, Strong Flood, PA Waggle, PA HB Cut	**Strong-Big Tight**	Counter Lead, HB Dive, HB Dive Weak, FB Dive
Singleback-Normal Slot	Slants, PA Boot Lt, Quick Hits, PA Rollout	**Singleback-Big**	HB Belly Weak, HB Blast Strong Stretch, HB Counter

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Tom Nalen	95	84	64	95
C	Chris Myers	71	85	51	59
FB	Kyle Johnson	88	66	77	65
HB	Tatum Bell	84	67	96	75
HB	Ron Dayne	79	77	84	75
HB	Cedric Cobbs	70	69	88	50
LG	Ben Hamilton	92	85	62	85
LG	Taylor Whitley	74	88	50	67
LT	Matt Lepsis	91	90	55	90
LT	Cornell Green	77	91	51	73
QB	Jake Plummer	90	52	71	85
QB	Jay Cutler	79	62	68	60
QB	Bradlee Van Pelt	73	66	73	64
RG	Cooper Carlisle	85	89	56	80
RG	Dwayne Carswell	77	84	68	75

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
RT	George Foster	86	94	55	77
RT	P.J. Alexander	65	85	54	59
TE	Tony Scheffler	79	68	82	62
TE	Stephen Alexander	76	65	72	75
TE	Nate Jackson	62	55	84	60
WR	Rod Smith	90	63	89	97
WR	Javon Walker	89	64	92	84
WR	Ashley Lelie	83	48	96	75
WR	Darius Watts	75	47	93	65
WR	Brandon Marshall	72	69	87	45
WR	Todd Devoe	70	39	89	55
WR	Charlie Adams	69	49	87	57

Coaching Profile

Mike Shanahan

- **Head Coaching Year:** 13th
- **Experience:** Shanahan was an assistant with Denver (1984-87, 1989-1991) and San Francisco (1992-94)

He became the fifth head coach to lead his team to back-to-back Super Bowl championships in 1997 and 1998 while coaching Broncos legend John Elway. He is the only coach to win seven consecutive postseason games in a two-year period.

Detailed Package Info

Denver Broncos

- **Formation:** Singleback Twin TE WR
- **Package:** Spell HB
- **Play:** HB Belly Strong
- **Advantage:** Ron Dayne is a much better inside runner than Tatum Bell. By packing Dayne in, he increases the chances of picking up tough yardage between the tackles.

- **Formation:**I Form-Close
- **Package:** WR Swap
- **Play:** Flanker
- **Advantage:** Javon Walker is swapped with Rod Smith on the right. Walker has a little more speed than Smith, which makes him a bigger threat to pick up yardage after the catch.

- **Formation:** 4-3-Under
- **Package:** Safety Swap
- **Play:** Banzai Blitz
- **Advantage:** This puts John Lynch in position to do what he is does best, and that's blow up the run.
time with the slot receiver.

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Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

Our stadium maintenance bills are near the league average. Our ticket prices are right where they should be. We've got cap room. Now's not the time to be cheap. Fans are generally happy with our merchandise prices.

Team Salary: 79.6M
Cap Room: 25.8M
Key Rival: Oakland Raiders
NFL Icons: Champ Bailey
Philosophy:
- Offense: West Coast
- Defense: Contain Passing

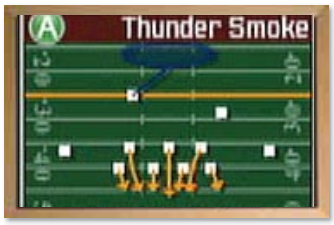
Prestige: Medium Low
Team Needs:
- Wide Receiver
- Defensive Line

Highest Paid Players:
- Champ Bailey
- Al Wilson

Up and Coming Players:
- Darrent Williams
- ∑ Domonique Foxworth

Key Defensive Plays

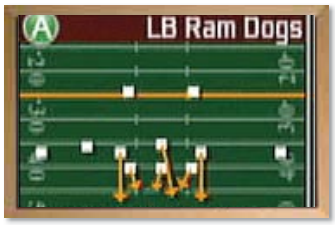
A 4-3-Normal
1st & 2nd down, attack the run



• Thunder Smoke
They are able to use their speed to get to the ball carrier quickly to stop the runner in his tracks. The 4-3 Normal Thunder Smoke gets them going in a hurry and they make it very difficult for the opposing offense to establish any type of a run game.



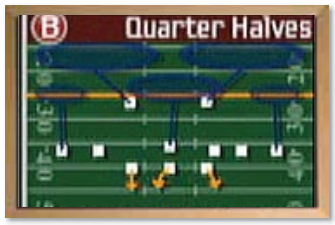
B Nickel-3-3-5
1st & 2nd down, to bring the heat



• LB Ram Dogs
Not only are the Broncos linebackers effective run stoppers, they are also effective pass rushers. This play sends all three of them on a blitz. Because each has plenty of speed, they are able to get to the quarterback and force a bad throw.



C Quarter-Normal
3rd & long, passing situation



• Quarter Halves
This is a good defensive call in third and long situations. The QB will be hard pressed to find an open receiver deep. The linebacker drops back over the middle to make sure no receivers can make the catch. The rest of the defense is in man coverage.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
4-3 Normal	Engage Eight, Free Fire, Slant 1 OLB Fire, Under Ram Buck	**4-3-Over**	2 Man Under, Cover 2, Double Z, Cover 4 Buzz
Quarter-Normal	Fire Blitz, Under Smoke, QB Trap, DB Strike	**Dime-Flat**	2 Man Under, Cover 3, Cover 2, 4 Deep Safe

Team Trivia

Denver Broncos Facts

Answers are on the following page.

1 How many AFC Championship games did the Broncos win before finally losing one to the Buffalo Bills in 1991?

2 What running back led the Broncos in rushing yardage in 1999?

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Champ Bailey	99	54	98	93
CB	Darrent Williams	86	42	97	76
CB	Domonique Foxworth	84	49	93	76
CB	Karl Paymah	75	61	93	62
CB	Roc Alexander	72	48	94	52
DT	Gerard Warren	86	92	63	69
DT	Michael Myers	79	84	64	68
DT	Demetrin Veal	69	77	64	59
DT	Amon Gordon	66	76	64	48
FS	John Lynch	94	70	83	97
FS	Curome Cox	71	62	86	63
LE	Courtney Brown	84	82	74	72
LE	Ebenezer Ekuban	81	74	72	74
LOLB	D.J. Williams	91	74	86	78
LOLB	Patrick Chukwurah	67	68	75	65
MLB	Al Wilson	95	75	86	92
MLB	Nate Webster	79	68	79	77
MLB	Keith Burns	71	68	71	80
RE	Kenard Lang	82	74	71	80
RE	John Engelberger	80	78	69	76
RE	Elvis Dumervil	75	67	74	52
ROLB	Ian Gold	91	69	88	82
ROLB	Josh Buhl	61	56	76	50
SS	Nick Ferguson	86	67	83	81
SS	Sam Brandon	75	54	88	66

Special Teams

K	Jason Elam	91	35	48	96
P	Todd Sauerbrun	96	33	51	75

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Denver, CO | **Starting Year:** 1960 | **League:** AFC

Franchise Beginnings

Founded by Bob Howsam, the Broncos were a charter member of the American Football League in 1960. It wasn't until the late 1970s that the team emerged as a playoff contender. The Broncos have won six AFC championships in 1977, 1986, 1987, 1989, 1997, and 1998, and after years of defeat at the Super Bowl, finally won back-to-back NFL titles in Super Bowl XXXII and XXXIII. The Broncos have one of the strongest fan bases in the league and have had consistently sold out games since 1970.

Notable Moments

• Super Bowl XXXII

The Broncos won its first Super Bowl on January 25, 1998, beating the Green Bay Packers 31-24. The win halted the NFC's streak of Super Bowl victories at 13. Broncos running back Terrell Davis ran for a record three touchdowns and was named the game's MVP.

• Super Bowl XXXIII

On January 31, 1999, The Broncos held onto their reign as Super Bowl champs with a 34-19 win over the Atlanta Falcons. In his final game, Broncos quarterback John Elway passed for 336 yards and one touchdown, and was named the game's most valuable player.

Notable Figures



Eric Lars Bakke/R. Clarkson & Assoc./WireImage.com

John Elway ('83-'98)

When Elway retired after his win in Super Bowl XXXIII, it was virtually certain that the quarterback would be the Broncos first-ever Hall of Fame player. As expected, he was inducted in 2004. Elway led Denver to a record 47 fourth-quarter comebacks, and ranks second all-time in passing yards (51,475) and completions (4,123).

Shannon Sharpe ('90-'99)

This likely future Hall of Famer spent 12 of his 14 seasons in Denver and was a member of three Super Bowl-winning teams (two with the Broncos and one with the Baltimore Ravens). Sharpe is the NFL's career leader in receptions (815) and yards (10,060) for tight ends. He is currently a TV football analyst.

Gerald H. Phipps ('61-'81)

Phipps is the only non-player inducted into Denver Broncos' Ring of Fame. Thanks to the efforts of Phipps, who owned the team from 1961-1981, the Broncos captured its first AFC Championship in 1977. Phipps turned the team into a fan favorite in Denver, increasing season ticket sales from 8,002 in 1964 to 22,905 in 1965.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• The Broncos' original uniform colors were **seal brown** and **light gold**.

• The Broncos have retired three numbers: **#7** (John Elway), **#18** (Frank Tripucka), and **#44** (Floyd Little).

• A **27-foot-tall statue** of the Broncos' mascot, Bucky Bronco, was moved from the scoreboard at Mile High Stadium to the south scoreboard of the team's home at Invesco Field.

• For the past 11 seasons, an Arabian stallion named "**Thunder**" has galloped across the home field after every team touchdown.

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:
John Elway ('83-'98) **4,123**

• Passing Yards:
John Elway ('83-'98) **51,475**

• Passing Touchdowns:
John Elway ('83-'98) **300**

• Receptions:
Rod Smith ('95-'06) **797**

• Receiving Yards:
Rod Smith ('95-'06) **10,877**

• Receiving Touchdowns:
Rod Smith ('95-'06) **65**

• Rushing Yards:
Terrell Davis ('95-'01) **7,607**

• Rushing Touchdowns:
Terrell Davis ('95-'01) **60**

• Career Points Leader:
Jason Elam ('93-'06) **1,557**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:
Simon Fletcher ('85-'95) **97.5**

• Interceptions:
Steve Foley ('76-'86) **44**

Team Trivia

Answers

1 Before 1991, the Broncos were 4-0 in AFC Championship games. Three of the wins came in the '80s against the Cleveland Browns.

2 Olandis Gary, subbing for the injured Terrell Davis, led the team with 1,159 yards rushing.

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CLEVELAND BROWNS

Division: AFC North | **Stadium:** Cleveland Browns Stadium | **Type:** Open | **Capacity:** 73,200+ | **Surface:** Grass



2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
6	10	0	232	301	4-4	2-6	4-8	2-2	1-5

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	85
Offense	86
Defense	86

Team Rankings

Scoring	32th
Passing Offense	23th
Rushing Offense	25th
Passing Defense	4th
Rushing Defense	30th
Turnovers	25th

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• Running back Reuben Droughns is back for another hard year of running. If Braylon Edwards can return from a torn ACL, he will give the Browns a playmaker at receiver. Former Saint LeCharles Bentley looks to open up plenty of holes for Droughns and the rest of the running backs. Kellen Winslow has potential to be star, but must stay healthy.

Weaknesses

• Although Droughns rushed for more than 1,000 yards last season, he only put the ball in the end zone twice. Charlie Frye takes over as the team's full time starter at quarterback. Last season in his five starts, he was 2-3. In those two wins, he engineered only one scoring drive.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• The additions of nose tackle Ted Washington and left outside linebacker Willie McGinest should help improve a run defense that allowed an average of 137.6 yards per game last season. Middle linebacker Andra Davis had team-high 199 tackles in 2005. With Williams in front of him this season, those numbers could be even higher.

Weaknesses

• They were last in the league in sacks with a total of 23. Linebacker Chaun Thompson and defensive end Alvin McKinley each had five. If they expect to stay competitive in the AFC North, those numbers must drastically improve for them to have any chance. Rookie linebackers Kamerion Wimbley and D'Qwell Jackson will be forced into action and are sure to make mistakes.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	LeCharles Bentley	Saints	C	6'2"	313
FA	NA	Willie McGinest	Patriots	LB	6'5"	270
FA	NA	Ted Washington	Raiders	NT	6'5"	365
Rookie	1	Kamerion Wimbley	Florida St.	DE	6'4"	225
Rookie	2	D'Qwell Jackson	Maryland	LB	6'1"	222

TEAM STRATEGY

Playing As: Cleveland Browns

1. Keep things simple on offense by handing the ball off to steady Reuben Droughns..
2. When forced to pass with Charlie Frye, don't take risks by throwing into tight coverage. If nothing is open down the field, dump the pass off to the backs or throw the ball away.
3. Call plenty of zone coverage to protect the Browns suspect secondary.

Playing Against: Cleveland Browns

1. Stop Reuben Droughns first and foremost. Call run blitz packages and force Frye into throwing the ball.
2. Watch for tight end Kellen Winslow. He has the speed to stretch the defense deep down the field.
3. With newcomer Ted Washington plugging up middle of the defense, running the ball inside may be rough. Instead look to call counters and toss plays so that Washington will be a non-factor.

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Reuben Droughns • Halfback (HB) #34

Showcase Plays for Droughns

I-Form Close



HB Stretch

• When running the ball from compression type sets such as the I-Form Close, it's best to run outside. The HB Stretch play does a good job at getting Droughns to the outside where he can use his vision to pick up yardage. If for some reason the outside is not there for the taking, look to bust Droughns back inside.

Singleback Big Twin WR



HB Counter

• This has Droughns taking the handoff, going right first and then cutting back to the left. The right guard pulls to the left and becomes the lead blocker. Both receivers act as if they are running streaks and clear out the defenders. Once to the outside, Droughns should have ample running room to pick up positive yardage.



Key Attributes

Awareness	88
Break Tackle	92
Agility	84
Speed	86

When experts talk about top running backs around the NFL, Ruben Droughns does not pop up. If he continues to run hard like he has over the last two seasons, he will soon be talked about in those conversations. Over the last two seasons, he has rushed for 2,472 yards and averaged just over 4.2 yards per carry.

Andra Davis • Middle Linebacker (MLB) #54

Showcase Plays for Davis

3-4 Normal



Pinch

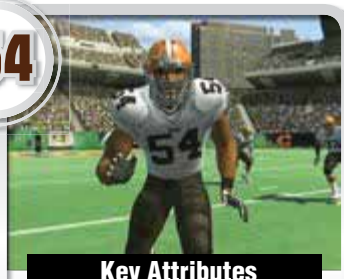
• This has ROLB, RILB, and LOLB being sent in on a blitz. With the linebackers blitzing, plus the three defensive linemen, this is a good defense to call to stop the run. Davis is playing man coverage, but he can plug the hole if a run play is called. If the play is flipped, Davis and the RILB switch. Davis then blitzes, while the RILB plays man coverage.

3-4 Solid Trio



Sky Blitz

• This is one the best 3-4 blitz defenses in the game. Both Davis and the LOLB blitz from the right side of the offensive line. This causes an overload for the offense. The right tackle cannot block both linebackers. If the right tackle blocks the LOLB, Davis will have a clean shot at laying the quarterback out on the turf.



Key Attributes

Strength	78
Awareness	87
Tackle	93
Speed	77

The Browns' Andra Davis is not mentioned among top middle linebackers. Part of that reason is because he plays in Cleveland. The other is he is not very good at dropping back in pass coverage. However, if you look at last year's top five tacklers in the league, Davis name pops up at number 5 with 149. That says something about how good he is as a run stopper.

Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

- **Position:** HB
- **Substitution:** Lee Suggs
- **When:** Third down passing situations.
- **Advantage:** William Green is listed as the team's third down back, but he does not have the speed or hands that Lee Suggs possesses. We suggest moving Suggs in and let Green ride the pine unless Suggs or Reuben Droughns get hurt.

- **Position:** RE
- **Substitution:** Simon Fraser
- **When:** Pass situations
- **Advantage:** Simon Fraser's speed rating is 7 points higher than default right end starter Alvin McKinley's. Those 7 points could be the difference between getting to the quarterback.

- **Position:** NT
- **Substitution:** Ethan Kelly
- **When:** Quarter formations
- **Advantage:** In the Quarter formations, we like to sub Ethan Kelly in for Washington because he is slightly faster

Fantasy Outlook

- **Star:** Braylon Edwards
- **Draft:** 10th round
- **2006 Outlook:** Has all the tools you want in a fantasy league receiver except for injury issues. Can Charlie Frye get him the ball consistently enough to be any type of factor in scoring?

- **Star:** Reuben Droughns
- **Draft:** 4th round
- **2006 Outlook:** Rushed for more than 1,000 yards, but only scored two touchdowns.

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Coaching Profile

Romeo Crennel

- **Head Coaching Year:** 2nd
- **Experience:** Crennel's resume includes 35 years of coaching experience, including 24 years in the NFL.

Crennel helped put together the New England Patriots defense that won three Super Bowls between 2001 and 2004. He was named the Browns 11th head coach in February of 2005.

TEAM STRATEGY

Detailed Package Info

Cleveland Browns

- **Formation:** Split Backs-Pro
- **Package:** TE Wideout
- **Play:** Slants
- **Advantage:** Kellen Winslow lines up wide on the left side of the formation where he can use his height against the smaller cornerbacks.

- **Formation:** Split Backs-3WR
- **Package:** TE Slot
- **Play:** Slot
- **Advantage:** Kellen Winslow lines up in the slot where he can use his speed to outrun linebackers trying to cover him.

- **Formation:** Quarter-3 Deep
- **Package:** LB Pass Rush
- **Play:** Cover 3
- **Advantage:** This package replaces the defensive ends with two linebackers who have better speed to rush the quarterback.

Key Offensive Plays

A Full House-Normal

1st & 2nd down and short



• HB Smash

When playing with the Browns, you want to run the ball on first and second down to stay out of third and long situations. Run behind the left guard and left tackle. If nothing opens up inside, use the spin or juke move to get outside and pick up yardage.



B Strong I-Normal

1st, 2nd down and short



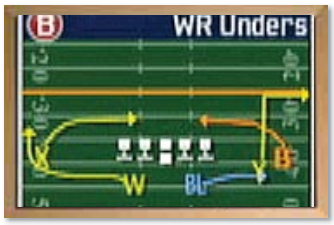
• Counter Lead

Droughns isn't going to bust off long runs, but will pick 3 or 4 yards consistently. In the this play he first goes left, then cuts back to the right. The left guard and fullback are two key blockers who must make their blocks to spring Droughns for yardage.



C Split Backs-3WR

1st & 2nd down, work the pass



• WR Unders

Charlie Frye does not have great arm strength so throwing short pass routes is the best way to go. The Split Backs-3WR WR Unders is a safe play that has the split end and the flanker running dual drag routes underneath. Look for one of them to be open.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Near-Pro	Texas, PA Counter Boot, Flanker Hook, PA Strong Flow	**Full House-Normal Wide**	HB Smash, HB Draw, **HB** Sweep,
Shotgun-2RB 3WRI	PA Skinny Post, Slants Middle, PA Smash Shake	**Strong I-Normal**	HB Dive, Counter Lead, Counter Weak, HB Draw

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	LeCharles Bentley	95	93	60	84
C	Rob Smith	69	87	52	50
FB	Terrelle Smith	87	77	62	74
HB	Reuben Droughns	89	79	86	88
HB	Lee Suggs	77	66	91	70
HB	William Green	77	70	88	63
LG	Joseph Andruzzi	89	90	51	92
LG	Bob Hallen	80	89	49	81
LT	Kevin Shaffer	87	92	55	80
LT	Kirk Chambers	64	84	46	58
QB	Charlie Frye	81	57	71	72
QB	Ken Dorsey	74	45	50	77
QB	Derek Anderson	66	62	48	52
RG	Cosey Coleman	81	89	49	78
RG	Dave Yovanovits	66	84	50	60

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
RT	Ryan Tucker	86	94	48	88
RT	Nat Dorsey	72	86	54	55
TE	Kellen Winslow	85	69	85	55
TE	Steve Heiden	78	73	69	75
TE	Darnell Dinkins	76	72	69	65
WR	Joe Jurevicius	86	69	87	87
WR	Braylon Edwards	84	65	91	68
WR	Dennis Northcutt	79	45	93	74
WR	Travis Wilson	75	64	88	64
WR	Frisman Jackson	70	55	86	65
WR	Brandon Rideau	67	46	91	45
WR	Josh Cribbs	59	44	87	50

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Key Defensive Plays

A 3-4-Under
1st & 2nd down, attack the run



• Strong Blitz

The Browns 3-4 defense is not very stout against the inside run. For them to be effective against the inside run, you need to call blitz packages that have LBs shooting the A and B gaps. The 3-4-Under Strong Blitz gets linebackers into position to make tackles.



B 3-4-Solid
1st & 2nd down, defend against pass

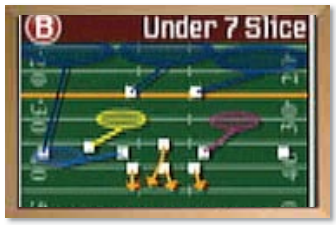


• Drop Zone

The Browns' corners do not have the speed to cover top end receivers. This play is the perfect defense to keep receivers from getting deep. The only drawback is there is only a three-man pass rush and QB's may have time to find the open receiver underneath.



C 3-3-5-Under
2nd & 3rd , passing situation



• Under 7 Slice

This defense has been a favorite with top players. What we like is the pass coverage is solid all over the field, plus the pass rush is decent with the middle linebacker blitzing the quarterback. This is a good pass defense to call in third and long situations.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
3-4-Normal	Renegade, Cover 1, Crash Blitz, OLB Dogs Fire	**3-4-Over**	2 Man Under, Cover 2, Sting Pinch Zone, Double Man
Nickel-3-3-5	Engage 8, CB Dogs Blitz, Under Slice 7, LB Ram Dogs	**Quarter-Normal**	Cover 3, Cover 2, Prevent, 4 Across

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Gary Baxter	88	67	88	85
CB	Daylon McCutcheon	83	55	87	84
CB	Leigh Bodden	79	58	89	70
CB	Pete Hunter	75	60	91	68
CB	Antonio Perkins	72	48	90	55
DT	Ted Washington	89	99	44	90
DT	Ethan Kelley	75	86	56	68
DT	Babatunde Oshinowo	70	93	47	55
FS	Brian Russell	87	55	85	80
FS	Shawn Mayer	63	54	83	52
LE	Orpheus Roye	84	88	63	82
LE	Simon Fraser	65	80	62	51
LOLB	Willie McGinest	93	77	79	97
LOLB	David McMillan	69	74	79	52

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
MLB	Andra Davis	90	78	77	87
MLB	Matt Stewart	77	76	73	77
MLB	D'Qwell Jackson	77	70	82	70
MLB	Leon Williams	72	76	83	55
RE	Alvin McKinley	75	89	56	72
RE	Nick Eason	69	88	58	56
ROLB	Chaun Thompson	86	74	85	73
ROLB	Kamerion Wimbley	81	73	83	60
SS	Brodney Pool	82	61	90	66
SS	Sean Jones	81	62	90	65

Special Teams

K	Phil Dawson	88	15	55	85
P	Dave Zastudil	83	50	55	67

Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

We should leave the parking prices where they are for now. We've got plenty of room under the cap for an important hire. Let's try to keep the food prices right where they are. Three years is a long time to between playoff appearances.

Team Salary: 66.0M
Cap Room: 39.4M
Key Rival: Pittsburgh Steelers
NFL Icons: None
Philosophy:
- Offense: Vertical Passing
- Defense: Disrupt Passing

Prestige: Medium Low
Team Needs:
- Quarterback
- Defensive Line

Highest Paid Players:
- Braylon Edwards
- LeCharles Bentley

Up and Coming Players:
- Braylon Edwards
- Kellen Winslow

Team Trivia

Cleveland Browns Facts

Answers are on the following page.

1 What name was originally chosen in a newspaper poll as the nickname for the Browns?

2 Who was the Browns' all-time leader in receptions in the 20th century?

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Cleveland, OH | **Starting Year:** 1944 | **League:** AFC

Franchise Beginnings

The Cleveland Browns were born in 1944 when Arthur B. McBride acquired a franchise in the new All-America Football Conference (AAFC) that began play in 1946. The team became one of the best in the nation, thanks to legends such as quarterback Otto Graham, winning four AAFC championships and building a 52-4-3 record. When the AAFC folded after the 1949 season, the team joined the NFL and continued its dominating streak by winning NFL titles in 1950, 1954, 1955, and 1964.

Notable Moments

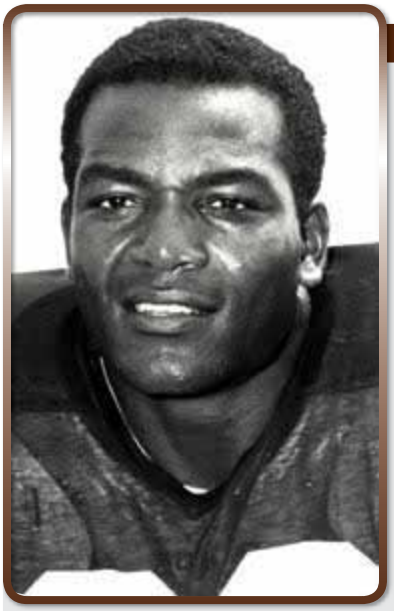
• 1950 NFL Championship

When Cleveland joined the NFL in 1950, the team was expected to wilt under the "superiority" of the other NFL teams. Instead, the Browns built up a winning record and beat the Los Angeles Rams 30-28 for its first-ever NFL title.

• 1964 NFL Championship

The Browns earned its last NFL title in 1964, when the team defeated Johnny Unitas and the Baltimore Colts 27-0. In the team's press book a year later, the Browns called the game "one of the finest defensive displays in the history of the club."

Notable Figures



National Football League/WireImage.com

Jim Brown ('57-'65)

Brown was the team's top draft pick in 1957, and in nine seasons became one of the most dominating running backs ever. Brown's 12,312 rushing yards and 14,811 combined net yards shattered NFL records of that era. He garnered league MVP honors four times and was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1971.

Otto Graham ('46-'55)

This legendary quarterback was the centerpiece of the Browns offense from 1946-1955. With Graham calling the plays, the team won four straight AAFC titles, three NFL championships, and compiled an impressive 52-4-3 record. He passed for 23,584 yards and 174 touchdowns in his career before being inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1965.

Lou Groza ('46-'59, '61-'67)

During the span of 21 years, Groza tallied 1,608 points and for years ranked as the league's all-time top scorer. Although he originally played offensive tackle for the team, Groza was one of the first players in the NFL to turn placekicking into a true offensive weapon.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• The Cleveland Browns are currently the only team in the NFL that **don't** have a team logo on their helmets.

• **Twenty** former Browns coaches or players have become NFL head coaches.

• The Cleveland Browns have retired four jersey numbers: **#14** (Otto Graham), **#32** (Jim Brown), **#45** (Ernie Davis), **#46** (Don Fleming), and **#76** (Lou Groza).

• The original name selected for the team was the **Panthers**, but since someone else held the rights to that name, the team chose the Browns after its popular head coach at the time, Paul Brown.

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:		
Brian Sipe ('74-'83)		1,944
• Passing Yards:		
Brian Sipe ('74-'83)		23,713
• Passing Touchdowns:		
Brian Sipe ('74-'83)		154
• Receptions:		
Ozzie Newsome ('78-'90)		662
• Receiving Yards:		
Ozzie Newsome ('78-'90)		7,980
• Receiving Touchdowns:		
Gary Collins ('62-'71)		70
• Rushing Yards:		
Jim Brown ('57-'65)		12,312
• Rushing Touchdowns:		
Jim Brown ('57-'65)		106
• Career Points Leader:		
Lou Groza ('46-'59, '61-'67)		1,349

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:		
Clay Matthews ('78-'93)		76.5
• Interceptions:		
Thom Darden ('72-'81)		45

Team Trivia

Answers

1 Panthers was chosen, but the owner did not want his team associated with a defunct team that failed. The runner up, Browns, was chosen instead.

2 Hall of Famer Ozzie Newsome[ended his career with 662 receptions.

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TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS

Division: NFC South | **Stadium:** Raymond James Stadium | **Type:** Open | **Capacity:** 66,000+ | **Surface:** Grass

2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
11	5	0	300	274	6-2	5-3	2-2	9-3	5-1

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	87
Offense	85
Defense	89

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Team Rankings

Scoring	20th
Passing Offense	25th
Rushing Offense	14th
Passing Defense	6tht
Rushing Defense	6th
Turnovers	11th

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• The Tampa Bay Bucs are a run-oriented football team. That's hard to believe when you consider the résumé of Coach Jon Gruden. That says a lot about the talent that the Bucs have in Cadillac Williams. The team spent this off-season adding some more beef up front to blow holes open for Williams and provide protection for Chris Simms.

Weaknesses

•In order for the receivers to continue to have success, veteran Joey Galloway will have to stay healthy and keep teams from double-teaming Clayton. If this happens then getting the tight end involved will be easy and that will open things up for both Mike Alstott and Cadillac Williams.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• The Bucs boasted the top-ranked defense in the NFL last season and all but one of last year's starters return for the 2006 season. The family attitude is also a plus for this unit with leadership from Derrick Brooks and his gesture to restructure his contract showing how important these players are to each other..

Weaknesses

• Just like last year, the age of the defensive stars continue to be a concern. Derrick Brooks, Simeon Rice, Ronde Barber, Shelton Quarles, and Brian Kelly are all in their 30s and are all starters. When you have so many top quality players in key positions like this defense does, it's a scary thought that one of them might go down.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	David Boston	Miami	WR	6'2"	228
FA	NA	Toniu Fonoti	Vikings	G	6'4"	350
FA	NA	Jamie Winborn	Jaguars	LB	5'11"	242
Rookie	1	Davin Joseph	Oklahoma	G	6'3"	312
Rookie	2	Jeremy Trueblood	Boston College	T	6'8"	315



Playing As: Tampa Bay Buccaneers

1. Run the rock early and often with halfback Carnell "Cadillac" Williams. He has the speed to get to the outside and the strength to leave tread marks on a defender.

2. Make sure to use Joey Galloway and Michael Clayton in those familiar bunch formations to get easy pass yards

3. The defense is solid and you can get away with running a lot of base plays and still be in good position.

Playing Against: Tampa Bay Buccaneers

1. The best bet to defend the Tampa attack is by using the Nickel 3-3-5 or Dime 3-2-6 formations. These sets allow us to cover both the run and pass and can handle the multiple bunch sets that the Bucs use.

2. Their weak area on offense is the quarterback, so get pressure on him and cause some inaccurate throws.

3. When attacking the defense, be sure to have streak and corner routes combined on one side of the field to keep ahead of the Cover 2 base defense..

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Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

- **Position:** HWR
- **Substitution:** David Boston
- **When:** 3WR sets
- **Advantage:** David Boston gives us just what we need in a slot receiver. Great size, speed, and hands. He's also the team's strongest receiver. That means with the new blocking feature, he can deliver a crushing block.

- **Position:** WR
- **Substitution:** Maurice Stovall
- **When:** Pass situations
- **Advantage:** Sorry Ike Hilliard, but at 6'5" we can't afford to let Stovall sit on the bench on must have downs. Stoval has a 93 jump rating. Let's see the D stop that.

- **Position:** TE
- **Substitution:** Alex Smith
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** Alex Smith needs to be in the starting lineup. His numbers already prove it and we make it official. His great speed, size, and hands add so much more power to our offense..

Fantasy Outlook

- **Star:** Carnell Williams
- **Draft:** 2nd
- **2006 Outlook:** As long as he is able to stay healthy, Williams is going to put up some good numbers as a running back.

- **Star:** Joey Galloway
- **Draft:** 5th
- **2006 Outlook:** Galloway set career records last season with 83 catches, and 1,187 yards receiving.

Star Players

Derrick Brooks • Linebacker (LB) #55

Showcase Plays for Brooks

Nickel-3-3-5



Double X

• The Double X gives Brooks a blitz assignment off of the edge. When the offense hikes the ball, Brooks blitzes tight off of the defensive end and has a free shot at the quarterback. He is a great tackler and gets the sack.

4-3-Normal



DBL QB Spy

• Derrick Brooks is very capable of playing a QB Spy assignment. In this play, the offense tries to get around the corner or stretch the defense by rolling out on the play. Brooks plays his spy position and while one-on-one with the quarterback, he makes the tackle and puts the offense scheme to sleep.



Key Attributes

Awareness	98
Speed	82
Strength	72
Tackle	89

Brooks remains the leader of the Tampa defense and is still performing season after season. He is still considered as a top-five linebacker. Last year he finished another season with more than 100 tackles and remains at a Pro Bowl level. His leadership ability led him into redoing his contract so that key players could be re-signed.

Carnell Williams • Halfback (HB) #24

Showcase Plays for Williams

Strong I-3WR



HB Dive

• One of the plays he is very productive with is the Strong I-3WR HB Dive. At the snap he gets the ball and hits the hole hard following the fullback. In the process of picking up yards he gets skinny in the hole and gains more yards.

Singleback-Tight



HB Sprint

• Cadillac Williams is also very good at running the ball without a lead blocker. Before the handoff, Williams already sees the linemen in front of him opening up the hole. His speed allows him to burst through the hole and pick up big-time yardage.



Key Attributes

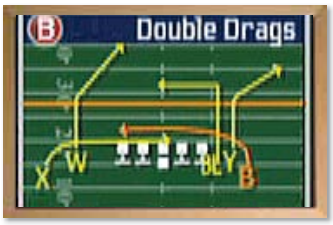
Awareness	78
Break Tackle	84
Agility	94
Speed	93

Cadillac Williams ran off with last year's Rookie of the Year award after rushing for 1,178 yards. He also set a Tampa Bay record by rushing for six 100-yard games, and started the season with three back-to-back 100-yard games. This season should be better as the explosive back prepares for year two.

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Key Offensive Plays

A Singleback-Empty Bunch
1st & 2nd, passing situation



• Double Drags
Their base passing game involves bunch and trips sets to cause picks and floods versus man or zone coverage. Use this play to shed man defenders and get easy receiving opportunities. Our tight end gets the easy catch in this play while running to the flat.



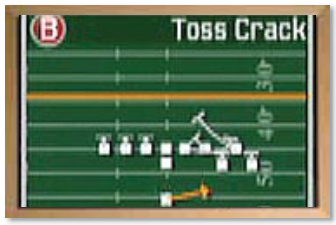
B Singleback-Tight
1st & 2nd, passing situation



• Clayton Option
Joey Galloway runs a very hard-to-defend route on this play. Galloway gets ahead of the corner defending him by flattening his route, and when he turns upfield the ball is in the air already. Galloway makes the catch for a first down.



C Singleback-Bunch TE
1st & 2nd, passing situation



• Toss Crack
Carnell Williams is a threat to any defense opposing him. In this play, our bunch receivers seal off the outside and this lets Williams get out in space to pick up five yards on the play.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Singleback-Tight	WR Middle, WR Option, Slot Out, Safety Bait	**Strong -I Twin TE**	HB Dive, Counter Weak, Toss Strong, FB Dive
Singleback-Empty Bunch	Curl Flats, Double Drags Motion Drive, FL Shake	**Weak-I Twins WR**	HB Inside, Toss Weak, PA QB Boot, HB Counter

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware	Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	John Wade	85	87	52	87	RG	Sean Mahan	78	82	54	73
C	Scott Jackson	61	80	48	50	RT	Kenyatta Walker	83	86	57	82
FB	Mike Alstott	91	81	82	91	RT	Jeremy Trueblood	75	91	50	63
FB	Jerald Sowell	90	66	67	73	TE	Alex Smith	85	68	79	71
HB	Carnell Williams	90	71	93	78	TE	Anthony Becht	82	78	63	78
HB	Michael Pittman	83	75	88	78	WR	Joey Galloway	89	49	97	88
HB	Earnest Graham	67	58	88	50	WR	Michael Clayton	84	66	88	77
LG	Dan Buenning	82	90	48	78	WR	David Boston	81	77	90	70
LG	Toniu Fonoti	80	90	50	73	WR	Ike Hilliard	79	46	87	85
LT	Anthony Davis	78	92	46	73	WR	Maurice Stovall	75	65	87	60
LT	Torrin Tucker	74	87	37	74	WR	Edell Shepherd	73	52	88	67
QB	Chris Simms	84	54	63	79	WR	Mark Jones	62	43	90	49
QB	Tim Rattay	76	47	52	75						
QB	Luke McCown	72	54	63	66						
RG	Davin Joseph	80	86	60	64						

Coaching Profile

Jon Gruden

- **Head Coaching Year:** 9th
- **Experience:** Raiders head coach from 1998-2001. Eagles offensive coordinator from 1995-1997.

Gruden became the youngest head coach in NFL history to win a Super Bowl, and he was also the first veteran head coach in the history of the NFL to lead his team to the Super Bowl in his first season with a new team.

Detailed Package Info

Tampa Bay Buccaneers

- **Formation:** Singleback-Empty Bunch
- **Package:** Strong Bunch
- **Play:** Double Drags
- **Advantage:** Puts Joey Galloway and Clayton on the Bunch side and has HB Carnell Williams playing the left split end. Mismatch for the defense trying to defend Clayton and Galloway.

- **Formation**: Singleback-Tight
- **Package:** Flanker Strong
- **Play:** Safety Bait
- **Advantage:** Puts our best receivers on the outside instead of being on the line and helps prevent the bump. We really like this because both our best receivers are running C routes.

- **Formation:** Dime Normal
- **Package:** ROLB
- **Play**: Cover 1
- **Advantage:** Lets us sub Derrick Brooks in as the dime linebacker. We use his playmaking ability as he always finds a way to get to the ball.

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Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

We should leave parking prices where they are for now. Our coaches are among the highest in the industry. We've got plenty of room under the cap to make an important hire. Making the playoffs last year was a big boost to the bottom line.

Team Salary: 79.8M
Cap Room: 25.6M
Key Rival: Atlanta Falcons
NFL Icons: Derrick Brooks
Philosophy:
- Offense: West Coast
- Defense: Contain Passing

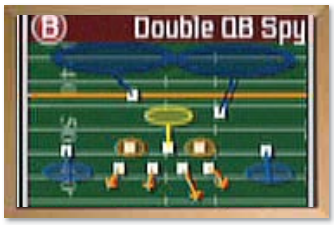
Prestige: Medium Low
Team Needs:
- Offensive Line
- Quarterback

Highest Paid Players:
- Derrick Brooks
- Simeon Rice

Up and Coming Players:
- Davin Joseph
- Barrett Ruud

Key Defensive Plays

A 4-3-Normal
Any singleback spread set



• Double QB Spy
They don't have a problem defending against a mobile quarterback. When running this defense the Bucs prevent a Quarterback from getting outside and around the corner for big yards. Instead they take the QB down at the line of scrimmage for no gain.



B Dime
2nd & 3rd , passing situation



•Cover 2 Pinch
This is a great defensive scheme for the Bucs. The Cover 2 Pinch takes away any underneath pass routes and defends the deep corner routes also. The strong safety in this play tries for the interception but only knocks the ball down instead



C Dime-Flat
2nd & 3rd , passing situation



• Cover 2 QB Spy
We have to be prepared for the mobile QB's scrambling ability. This defense leaves a spy assigned to the QB and also has DBs in flat coverage for back up protection. The QB sees this in the play and decides to throw, only to be intercepted by our safety.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
4-3-Normal	Buc Blizzard 3, Storm Blitz, LOLB Blitz, Rambo Smoke	**Dime-Flat**	Cover 2 Buc, 4 Deep Safe, QB Contain, 2 Man Under
Dime-3-2-6	Fire Blitz, DB Dogs 1, Zero Blitz, 2 Deep Pirate	**4-3-Over**	2 Man Under, Cover 2, Double Z, Cover 4 Buzz

Team Trivia

Tampa Bay Buccaneers Facts

Answers are on the following page.

1 Who, at the end of the century, held the Bucs' records for most rushing yardage in a game, single season, and a career?

2 Bucs' head coach Jon Gruden once became the youngest coach to win a Super Bowl. How old was he?

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Ronde Barber	94	55	88	95
CB	Brian Kelly	89	63	88	88
CB	Juran Bolden	79	70	87	73
CB	Torrie Cox	69	43	87	64
CB	Blue Adams	65	47	87	57
DT	Anthony McFarland	92	90	64	81
DT	Chris Hovan	86	84	66	75
DT	Ellis Wyms	76	79	65	68
DT	Jon Bradley	71	77	57	63
FS	Will Allen	81	58	86	67
FS	Steve Cargile	64	63	85	49
LE	Greg Spires	85	75	74	77
LE	Dewayne White	83	75	74	67
LOLB	Ryan Nece	79	67	79	75
LOLB	Jamie Winborn	77	65	80	72
MLB	Shelton Quarles	89	74	77	90
MLB	Barrett Ruud	79	76	75	75
RE	Simeon Rice	95	74	84	93
RE	Julian Jenkins	73	80	69	50
RG	Davin Joseph	80	86	60	64
RG	Sean Mahan	78	82	54	73
ROLB	Derrick Brooks	97	72	82	98
ROLB	Wesly Mallard	68	67	76	63
SS	Jermaine Phillips	84	69	87	73
SS	Donte Nicholson	74	63	87	61

Special Teams

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
K	Matt Bryant	80	42	54	68
P	Josh Bidwell	88	24	51	80

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Tampa Bay, FL | **Starting Year:** 1976 | **League:** NFC

Franchise Beginnings

As one of two expansion teams, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers entered the NFL in 1976, franchised to Hugh Culverhouse, a tax lawyer and broker out of Florida. The president of Warner National Corp. and friend of Culverhouse, Marvin L. Warner also purchased a large share of the team. Though the team got off to a rocky start, losing their first 26 games, the Buccaneers have established themselves in the NFL with five division titles, a NFC Championship, and a Super Bowl victory.

Notable Moments

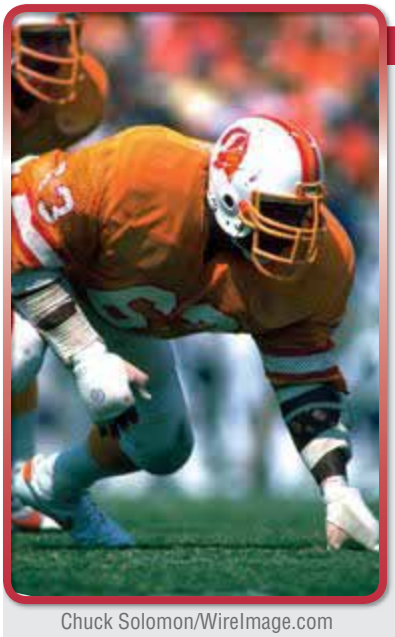
• Super Bowl XXXVII

The Buccaneers' top-ranked defense faced off with the Oakland Raiders' top-ranked offense in Super Bowl XXXVII. Their top-ranked defense prevailed as they set Super Bowl records with their five interceptions—three of the five were returned for a touchdown. The Raiders were held to just 62 total yards in the first half as the Buccaneers sealed a 48-21 victory.

• The 1995 Draft

Arguably one of the most important dates in Buccaneer history, the 1995 NFL draft brought Tampa two eventual Hall of Famers—linebacker Derrick Brooks and defensive tackle Warren Sapp. They are both franchise leaders in Pro-Bowl appearances, having more than 7 consecutive appearances a piece; they're also both responsible for the success of Tampa's top rated defense in the modern era of Bucs football.

Notable Figures



Chuck Solomon/WireImage.com

Lee Roy Selmon ('76-'84)

The first-ever draft pick of the Buccaneers came in the form of a 6-3, 256lbs All-American out of the University of Oklahoma, and was named the Bucs' Rookie of the Year and Team's Most Valuable player his first year. He later was named to six straight Pro Bowls from 1980 through 1985 and lead the defensive unit and the Bucs to two NFC Central Division championships.

John McKay ('76-'84)

John McKay had an impressive tenure as head coach at the University of Southern California, winning four national championships before becoming the first head coach of the Bucs in 1976. Though the Bucs started with an 0-26 record, it was McKay that led the team to two division titles and an NFC Championship appearance.

James Wilder ('81-'89)

James Wilder is one of the best running backs in Buccaneer history. In only 9 seasons with the club, he set franchise rushing records and recorded 14 100-yard games and 37 TDs. Though his job was to run with the football, Wilder lead NFL running backs in receiving in 1988.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• Entering the NFL as an expansion team was rough for the Buccaneers, as they lost their entire inaugural season of 14 games. They went on to lose their first 26 professional games, setting a NFL record for **most consecutive losses**. However, the Buccaneers shocked the sports world when they reached the 1979 NFC Championship game in just their fourth season.

• In his **6 season career**, the energetic Martin Gramatica became the Bucs all-time leading scorer with 591 points, logging 137 field goals and 180 extra points.

• At a mere age of 39, head coach Jon Gruden became the **youngest** coach in NFL history to win a Super Bowl. He was also the only head coach in history to guide his team to a Super Bowl victory in his first season with the team (2002).

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:
Vinny Testaverde ('87-'92) **1,126**

• Passing Yards:
Vinny Testaverde ('87-'92) **14,820**

• Passing Touchdowns:
Vinny Testaverde ('87-'92) **77**

• Receptions:
James Wilder ('81-'89) **430**

• Receiving Yards:
Mark Carrier ('87-'92) **5,018**

• Receiving Touchdowns:
Jimmie Giles ('78-'86) **34**

• Rushing Yards:
James Wilder ('81-'89) **5,957**

• Rushing Touchdowns:
Mike Alstott ('96-'06) **55**

• Career Points Leader:
Martin Gramatica ('93-'04) **592**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:
Lee Roy Selmon ('76-'87) **78.5**

• Interceptions:
Donnie Abraham ('96-'01) **31**

Team Trivia

Answers

1 James Wilder played for the Bucs from 1981-1989, and rushed for a total of 5,957 yards for the team.

2 He was 39. Gruden came pretty close to setting this record even earlier, as he led the Raiders to several successful seasons before leaving the team after 2001.

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ARIZONA CARDINALS

Division: AFC West | **Stadium:** Sun Devil Stadium | **Type:** Open | **Capacity:** 73,379 | **Surface:** Grass



2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
5	11	0	311	387	3-5	2-6	1-3	4-8	3-3

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	87
Offense	88
Defense	85

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Team Rankings

Scoring	18th
Passing Offense	1st
Rushing Offense	32nd
Passing Defense	12th
Rushing Defense	10th
Turnovers	24th

TEAM STRATEGY

Playing As: Arizona Cardinals

1. Pound Edgerrin James early and often to keep the pressure off Kurt Warner. .
2. Go max protect to give Warner time to throw in the pocket so he can look for his top receivers, Anquan Boldin and Larry Fitzgerald.
3. Turn linebacker Karlos Dansby loose by developing schemes that allow him to use his playmaking abilities.

Playing Against: Arizona Cardinals

1. Load the box up to stop James and force Warner to beat you with his arm.
2. Watch for safety Adrian Wilson coming in on the blitz. You may need to leave an extra pass blocker in to account for him..
3. In passing situations, double up Anquan Boldin and Larry Fitzgerald. Force Warner to find other receivers.

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• The Arizona Cardinals could have one of most explosive offenses in 2007. Two-time league MVP Kurt Warner, newly signed Edgerrin James, and two of the best young receivers in the league in Anquan Boldin and Larry Fitzgerald have gotten many fans in the desert excited about this year's offense. As an extra plus, Leinart gets to understudy a class act at QB.

Weaknesses

• As great as the skill position talent is, the Cardinals' offensive line is a huge question mark going into the 2006-2007 season. If the offensive line does not show improvement from last season, all that talent on offense may go to waste. If they cannot open any gap for James, the Cardinals' rushing game may again rank at the bottom of the league.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• Surprisingly Arizona had one of top-10 overall defenses in 2005. Defensive end Bertrand Berry returns from injury and will help bolster the pass rush. Karlos Dansby is becoming one of the league's emerging playmakers at linebacker. Adrian Wilson is one of the top blitzing safeties in the game. His knack for timing the blitz keeps offensive coordinators up at night.

Weaknesses

• They managed to rank in the top-10 in rushing defense, but they gave up a league high 22 rushing touchdowns. For Arizona to improve they need free agent defensive tackle Kendrick Clancy and rookie defensive tackles Gabe Watson and Jon Lewis to step up. Another concern is at cornerback. Can Antrel Rolle be the shutdown cornerback the team so desperately needs.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Milford Brown	Texans	OG	6'4"	331
FA	NA	Kendrick Clancy	Giants	DT	6'1"	305
FA	NA	Edgerrin James	Colts	RB	6'0"	214
Rookie	1	Matt Leinart	USC	QB	6'5"	225
Rookie	2	Taitusi Lutui	USC	OG	6'6"	370

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Edgerrin James • Halfback (HB) #32

Showcase Plays for James

Singleback-Big



HB Stretch

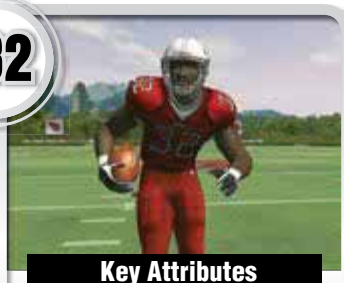
• One of the staple run plays that James ran while with the Colts is the HB Stretch. In *Madden NFL 07* the HB Stretch play is highly effective against man because the outside receivers act as if they are running streaks. Once James has the ball, take control of him and look to follow the pulling left guard to the outside.

Shotgun-2RB 3WR



HB Deep

• James has a great pair of hands and is a threat to catch the ball out of the backfield. The HB Deep sends James deep down the middle portion of the field. If James is matched up with a linebacker, he has the speed to get separation. Once he gets a few yards on the defender, throw the ball where only James can go get it.



Key Attributes

Awareness	91
Break Tackle	90
Agility	92
Speed	92

Edgerrin James looked like he just a came out of college last season by posting 1,505 yards on the ground. He will be expected to put up those same numbers in Arizona. He is also one of the best catching backs in the league and will be a perfect safety valve for Kurt Warner to dump the ball off to when in trouble.

Larry Fitzgerald • Wide Receiver (WR) #11

Showcase Plays for Fitzgerald

Singleback-Normal



Flat Corner

• Fitzgerald runs what we like to call a backward C route. Essentially what he runs is a slant corner route. If the defense comes out in Cover 2 zone, his route will be open once he breaks to the corner. In the screen shot, we throw the ball over the top of the defenders and into Fitzgerald's waiting arms.

Singleback-4WR



Out N Ups

• Ask any top player what one of their favorite pass routes to run is and he will tell you the Out N Ups. The Singleback 4WR Out N Ups has Fitzgerald running that particular route. Once he breaks up the sideline, throw him the ball. If the defense is playing zone coverage, he will be open most of the time for a big gain.



Key Attributes

Acceleration	90
Awareness	95
Catching	90
Speed	88

At 6'3" and 221 pounds, Larry Fitzgerald uses his body to keep defenders from making any type of play on the ball. Last season he ranked fourth in the league with 1,409 receiving yards. He also managed to find the end zone 10 times. Look for him to put up these same type of numbers in 2006.

Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

• **Position:** HB
• **Substitution:** J.J. Arrington
• **When:** Global
• **Advantage:** James is cemented in as the team's primary ball carrier, but for his backup, we like J.J. Arrington over Marcel Shipp for two reasons. Arrington is faster than Shipp and has better hands.

• **Position:** TE
• **Substitution:** Leonard Pope
• **When:** Global
• **Advantage:** Leonard Pope has too much talent to be sitting on the bench as the Cardinal's number-two tight end. Move him up to the number-one spot where the defense must respect his playmaking ability.

• **Position:** LOLB
• **Substitution:** Darryl Blackstock
• **When:** Global
• **Advantage:** Blackstock's speed rating is higher. With so many fast tight ends in the game, having a left outside linebacker with speed is a must.

Fantasy Outlook

• **Star:** Edgerrin James
• **Draft:** 2nd round
• **2006 Outlook:** He still is good for 1,200 yards and 10 touchdowns which is enough to warrant a second or third pick.

• **Star:** Larry Fitzgerald
• **Draft:** 3rd round
• **2006 Outlook:** The Cardinals are looking for more balance this season in their offense. Fitzgerald's numbers may not be as high as they were in 2005, but don't expect them to drop off.

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Coaching Profile

Dennis Green

- **Head Coaching Year:** 13th
- **Experience:** Former Head Coach of the Minnesota Vikings from 1992-2001.

Over his 13 years in league as head coach, Green has won 112 games. He is one of four coaches to achieve a 15-game win season. He managed that feat in 1998 with the Vikings. He is also one of eight coaches to lead his team to the playoffs in his first three seasons.

TEAM STRATEGY

Detailed Package Info

Arizona Cardinals

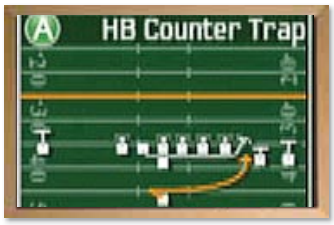
- **Formation:** Singleback-Normal
- **Package:** HB Slot
- **Play:** Cross Up
- **Advantage:** Edgerrin James lines up in the slot and runs a corner. If he is matched up with a linebacker, look to throw him the ball once he makes his break.

- **Formation:** Singleback-Big
- **Package:** TE Swap
- **Play:** Ace TE Drag
- **Advantage:** Leonard Pope lines up on the right where he runs a drag route. He can use his speed and athletic ability to get open underneath.

Key Offensive Plays

A Singleback-Slot Strong

1st & 2nd down and short



• HB Counter Trap

Adding Edgerrin James was wise a move. His ability to run the ball will take pressure off the passing game. This play showcases his ability to run the ball to the outside. Left guard Reggie Wells pulls to right side and paves the way for James to pick up yardage.



B Singleback-Trips Bunch

3rd and long passing situation



• WR Post

The WR Post has split end Larry Fitzgerald running a deep post on the backside. There are two points when the ball should be thrown his way. Hit him either when he breaks to the corner on his first cut or when he breaks to the post on his second cut.



C Shotgun-Slot Strong

Any down passing situation



• SE Slant

The Shotgun-Slot Strong SE Slant is another play that has Fitzgerald running a backside route. His slant route works best against bump-n-run man coverage. As soon as he comes off the jam, throw him a high bullet pass. Expect to pick up 8-10 yards.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Singleback-Big Twin WR	PA Boot Corner, Double Outs, HB Screen Right	I Form-Normal	FB Dive, HB Toss, HB Lead Dive, HB Counter Wk
Shotgun-Slot Strg HB Wk	SE Drag, Deep In, Twin Outs, Slant Hook	Strong-Normal	FB Dive, FB Trap, HB Dive Weak, HB Off Tackle

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

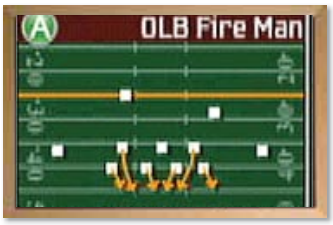
Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Nick Leckey	77	81	55	73
C	Alex Stepanovich	76	85	46	72
FB	Obafemi Ayanbadejo	85	65	75	65
HB	Edgerrin James	96	74	92	91
HB	Marcel Shipp	79	75	84	73
HB	J.J. Arrington	73	62	91	61
LG	Reggie Wells	86	87	57	80
LG	Deuce Lutui	78	94	45	58
LG	Jeremy Bridges	71	84	54	62
LT	Leonard Davis	88	99	52	82
LT	Dante Ellington	65	88	48	63
QB	Kurt Warner	87	54	46	92
QB	Matt Leinart	81	61	59	69
QB	John Navarre	66	63	43	66

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
RG	Milford Brown	78	91	48	74
RG	Elton Brown	75	90	49	62
RT	Oliver Ross	83	92	54	80
RT	Fred Wakefield	66	87	65	70
TE	Leonard Pope	80	69	82	45
TE	Eric Edwards	73	66	72	61
TE	Adam Bergen	66	69	64	60
WR	Larry Fitzgerald	93	70	88	86
WR	Anquan Boldin	92	69	88	88
WR	Bryant Johnson	79	55	91	69
WR	Troy Walters	68	37	84	61
WR	LeRon McCoy	67	57	92	36

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Key Defensive Plays

A 4-3-Normal
1st & 2nd down, attack the run



• OLB Fire Man
This defense sends the two outside linebackers in on a blitz. If a run play is called, one of them will shoot through the gap and stop the ball carrier in his tracks. If the play is a pass, the quarterback won't have much time to find the open receiver.



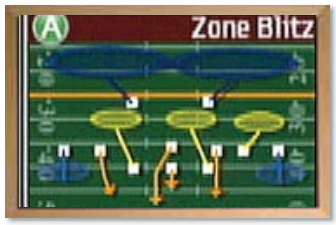
B Nickel-Normal
2nd & 3rd down, pass situation



• Quarters Safe
If your opponent is attacking the sidelines with curls and corners, use the Nickel-Normal Quarters Safe to stop these routes. The right outside linebacker drops back over the middle in a hook zone, while four defenders drop back in deep coverage.



C Quarter-Normal
3rd and long &for bringing heat



• Zone Blitz
The Quarter-Normal Zone Blitz does a good job at creating confusion for the quarterback and the offensive line. Both defensive ends drop back in hook zones and the two inside defensive backs blitz. This a good defense to call to force turnovers.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
4-3-Under	Bonzai, Sam Shoot Fire 2, Slant Crash Left, Str Snake 3	**4-3-Normal**	2 Man Under, Cover 3, 4 Deep Quarters, Cover 2
Quarter-Normal	Fire Blitz, Ram Buck 1 Deep, Under Smoke, QB Trap	**Nickel-Normal**	2 Man Under, Cover 3, Man-QB Spy, 4 Across

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Antrel Rolle	83	65	88	68
CB	David Macklin	81	59	87	76
CB	Eric Green	79	60	89	70
CB	Lamont Reid	64	47	87	50
CB	Robert Tate	64	43	85	58
DT	Darnell Dockett	86	87	71	68
DT	Kendrick Clancy	80	88	54	70
DT	Gabe Watson	77	94	57	49
DT	Kenny King	69	77	59	61
FS	Robert Griffith	85	58	81	90
FS	Jack Brewer	65	54	82	58
LE	Chike Okeafor	87	75	78	85
LE	Anton Palepoi	63	71	64	48
LOLB	Darryl Blackstock	72	73	81	64
LOLB	Calvin Pace	71	74	74	68
MLB	Karlos Dansby	90	77	86	82
MLB	James Darling	82	75	77	84
RE	Bertrand Berry	93	78	79	84
RE	Antonio Smith	67	70	63	55
ROLB	Orlando Huff	78	77	73	76
ROLB	Isaac Keys	64	65	73	64
SS	Adrian Wilson	90	70	88	77
SS	Aaron Francisco	65	59	85	60

Special Teams

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
K	Neil Rackers	97	45	64	73
P	Scott Player	93	21	53	92

Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

Our parking prices are pretty much on par for the league. We've got plenty of room under the cap to make an important hire. Merchandise sales and prices are very close to the league average. Fans are happy with the affordable food prices..

Team Salary: 80.7M
Cap Room: 24.7M
Key Rival: Dallas Cowboys
NFL Icons: None
Philosophy:
- Offense: West Coast
- Defense: Contain Passing

Prestige: Low
Team Needs:
- Linebacker
- Offensive Line

Highest Paid Players:
- Larry Fitzgerald
- Edgerrin James

Up and Coming Players:
- Larry Fitzgerald
- Matt Leinart

Team Trivia

Arizona Cardinals Facts

Answers are on the following page.

1 Who became the first Cardinal to catch passes for more than 1,500 yards in one season?

2 The Cardinals had one of the best front fours in the 1998 season. Who led them in sacks?

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Chicago, IL | **Starting Year:** 1920 | **League:** NFC

Franchise Beginnings

The history of this franchise traces back to its roots in 1898 when Chris O'Brien formed the Morgan Athletic Club. Mr. O'Brien purchased used jerseys from the University of Chicago for his new team. The faded maroon color of these pieces was dubbed "Cardinal Red" and clothed the Racine Street Cardinals. In 1920 the American Professional Association was founded and the Cardinals were charter participants. After 40 years in Chicago, the team moved to St. Louis in 1960. In 1988, the Cardinals finally moved the team to its current location in Phoenix, Arizona.

Notable Moments

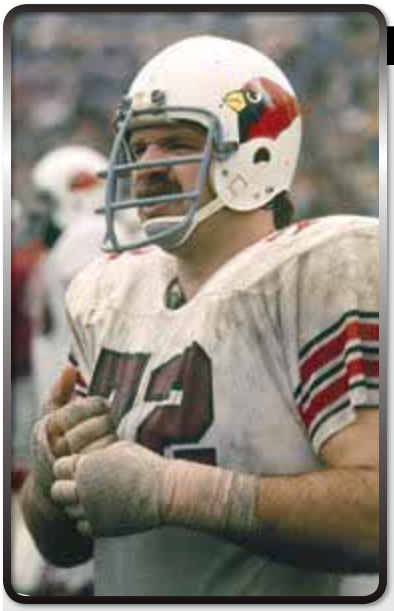
• Never Say Nevers

A Thanksgiving Day game in 1929 became historic to the Cardinals franchise when Ernie Nevers, the starting running back, scored all 40 points in a 40-6 win over the Chicago Bears, an NFL record that stands to this day.

• The Battle for Home Turf Advantage

After an organizational meeting September 17, 1920, that brought in the Chicago Tigers to the league, the Cardinals found themselves battling for territorial favor. In what was arguably the most important game of franchise history, the Cardinals challenged the Tigers to a football game; the losing team would agree to leave town. The Cardinals won the game with a 6-0 victory.

Notable Figures



NFL/WireImage.com

Dan Dierdorf ('71-'83)

Mr. Dierdorf was the 2nd round pick of the Cardinals in the 1971 draft. He was able to make an immediate impact with the St. Louis Cardinals due to his physical strength and mental toughness. This Right Tackle anchored an offensive line that led the NFL three years, and NFC five years in fewest sacks allowed.

Charles Bidwill, Sr. ('32-'47)

Mr. Bidwill purchased the Cardinals franchise in 1933 and owned them until 1946, when the franchise relocated to Chicago. He was faithful to the NFL during the Great Depression even though most teams were losing money year after year. Mr. Bidwill even gave financial help to help save the Bears' ownership for George Halas.

Charley Trippi ('47-'55)

Mr. Trippi was a key figure for the two competing football leagues (the American Football Conference and the National Football League). The American Football Conference's New York Yankees were so sure they had Mr. Trippi, a news conference was set up to announce his signing. He became the first player to sign a $100,000 contract.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• The first points ever scored by the Cardinals were in a regular season game on **October 31, 1920**. Len Sachs returned three blocked punts for touchdowns, in a 21-0 victory over the Detroit Heralds.

• The first name the Cardinals ever had, the **Racine Street Cardinals**, was based on where they played—61st and Racine Street.

• In 1944, a wartime measure forced the Cardinals and Pittsburgh Steelers to **play as one team**. The team was called the Card-Pitt. The coaches of each team joined forces to serve as head coaches for a team that split its home games between Comiskey Park and Forbes Field. However, even with two head coaches the Card-Pitt was unable to get a win in 10 tries.

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:	
Jim Hart ('66-'83)	**2,590**
• Passing Yards:	
Jim Hart ('66-'83)	**34,639**
• Passing Touchdowns:	
Jim Hart ('66-'83)	**209**
• Receptions:	
Larry Centers ('90-'98)	**535**
• Receiving Yards:	
Roy Green ('79-'90)	**8,497**
• Receiving Touchdowns:	
Roy Green ('79-'90)	**66**
• Rushing Yards:	
Otis Anderson ('79-'86)	**7,999**
• Rushing Touchdowns:	
Otis Anderson ('79-'86)	**46**
• Career Points Leader:	
Jim Bakken ('62-'78)	**1,380**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:	
Freddie Joe Nunn ('85-'93)	**66.0**
• Interceptions:	
Larry Wilson ('60-'72)	**52**

Team Trivia

Answers

1 Roy Green had 1,555 receiving yards and 12 TDs in '84.

2 Simeon Rice had 10 sacks that year.

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SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

Division: AFC West | **Stadium:** Qualcomm Stadium | **Type:** Open | **Capacity:** 70,561 | **Surface:** Grass

2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
9	7	0	418	312	4-4	5-3	7-5	2-2	3-3

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	86
Offense	89
Defense	86

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Team Rankings

Scoring	5th
Passing Offense	12th
Rushing Offense	9th
Passing Defense	28st
Rushing Defense	1st
Turnovers	28th

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• While new quarterback Philip Rivers gets settled in, running back LaDainian Tomlinson will be expected to carry even more of the load than normal. In his first five seasons with the Chargers, Tomlinson has rushed for more than 1,200 yards in each of them. Antonio Gates has asserted himself as the best tight end in the league. He caught 10 touchdown passes.

Weaknesses

• Rivers takes over for Drew Brees at quarterback and the big question in San Diego is: "Was that a wise move?" Brees made the Pro Bowl last year, but that wasn't enough to keep him around. If Rivers falls short, you can almost count on the Chargers not making the playoffs in 2006.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• You will be hard pressed to find a better front seven in the league. Rookie LB Shawne Merriman posted a team-high 10 sacks. Inside linebacker Donnie Edwards continued to be a tackling machine by recording 152 tackles. Nose tackle Jamal Williams and defensive ends Luis Castillo and Igor Olshansky did a nice job at keeping offensive blockers off the linebackers.

Weaknesses

• The defensive secondary is lucky to have such a rock-solid front seven to help protect them in pass coverage. Last season they picked off a total of 10 passes despite the defense getting to the quarterback 45 times. Quentin Jammer had a total of six interceptions in his first four seasons with the Chargers. That's nothing special to write home about.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Brandon Manumaleuna	Rams	TE	6'2"	288
FA	NA	Rashaun Woods	49ers	WR	6'2"	205
Rookie	1	Antonio Cromartie	Florida St	CB	6'3"	210
Rookie	2	Marcus McNeill	Auburn	OT	6'9"	337



Playing As: San Diego Chargers

1. Utilize LaDainian Tomlinson in the passing game. This will help lessen the load on new starting QB Philip Rivers when the defense calls a blitz.

2. Look for Antonio Gates in the red zone where he can use his basketball skills and height to out jump defenders for the ball.

3. Send second year linebacker Shawne Merriman on a blitz as often as you can. He can disrupt the opposing offense's passing attack.

Playing Against: San Diego Chargers

1. Attack the Chargers' 3-4 defense with the inside run. Trying to run outside will be difficult to do because of the linebackers' speed.

2. The Chargers secondary is one of the weaker ones in the game. Attack them by going deep.

3. Force Rivers into making mistakes by calling multiple blitz packages.

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TEAM STRATEGY

Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

- **Position:** HB
- **Substitution:** Darren Sproles
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** We recommend moving Darren Sproles to the number-two spot on the Chargers depth chart at halfback. Sproles is faster and has better hands than Michael Turner.

- **Position:** RE
- **Substitution:** Jacques Cesaire
- **When:** Pass situations
- **Advantage:** He gives the Chargers a stronger pass rusher coming off the edge in passing situations than Igor Olshansky. Anytime you can get more speed at defensive end, it benefits your pass rush.

- **Position:** CB
- **Substitution:** Antonio Cromartie
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** Antonio Cromartie's overall rating is not as high as the Chargers' default number-two cornerback, but his speed and catch ratings are better. With so many talented receivers in the AFC West, you will need the extra speed.

Fantasy Outlook

- **Star:** LaDainian Tomlinson
- **Draft:** 1st round
- **2006 Outlook:** If you can't get Shaun Alexander or Larry Johnson, getting L.T. is a nice consolation. Last season he rushed for 1,462 yards and got in the end zone 18 times.

- **Star:** Antonio Gates
- **Draft:** 3rd round
- **2006 Outlook:** Best fantasy tight end to pick up provided new Chargers' quarterback Philip Rivers can get him the ball consistently and in the end zone.

Star Players

Antonio Gates • Tight End (TE) #85

Showcase Plays for Gates

Strong I-Normal Flex PA



Post Corner

• This play is one of the better PA plays in the game to get an athletic tight end involved in the offense. If the defense leaves Gates in one-on-one coverage, it's money in the bank. Once Gates makes his break to the corner, throw him a high rocket pass. There aren't any defenders in the game who can cover him when he goes up for the pass.

Shotgun-2RB Flex



TE Middle

• When you need just a few yards for first down or are inside your opponent's 5-yard line, call the TE Middle. Gates runs a short little hook over the middle. Even if a defender is in the area, Gates will usually come down with it if the ball is thrown high.



Key Attributes

Strength	85
Awareness	75
Catching	90
Run Blocking	56

Antonio Gates played basketball in college and wasn't thought of as a football player coming out. In his first season with the Chargers, he didn't do too much. However, in his second season all he did was catch 13 touchdown passes and pick up 964 yards. In his third season, he reeled in 10 touchdown passes and picked up just over 1,100 yards.

LaDainian Tomlinson • Halfback (HB) #21

Showcase Plays for Tomlinson

Strong I-Normal



HB Toss Weak

• Getting Tomlinson out in space where he can showcase his abilities is a good idea if you plan on having any success with the Chargers. The HB Toss Weak gets Tomlinson outside with the pulling left guard where you can use the new running moves to avoid would-be tacklers

Singleback-Twin TE WR



HB Clearout

• Only a handful of backs in the league can run and catch the ball. Tomlinson is one those players who is just as big a threat as a receiver as he is a runner. Once the ball is snapped, look for Tomlinson on the right. The flanker will clear out the coverage for Tomlinson in the flat. Once he gets open, make the throw.



Key Attributes

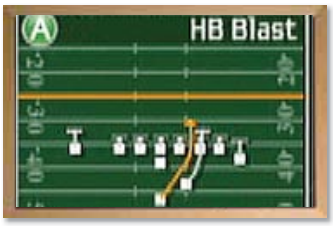
Awareness	90
Agility	95
Break Tackle	90
Speed	95

If LaDainian Tomlinson can continue his rushing yardage pace, he has a chance become the NFL's All Time Leading Rusher when he retires. He already has amassed more than 7,300 yards in his first five seasons, which is ahead of Emmitt Smith's pace. Only time will tell if he can break that record, but if any current NFL running back can do it, it's LT.

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Key Offensive Plays

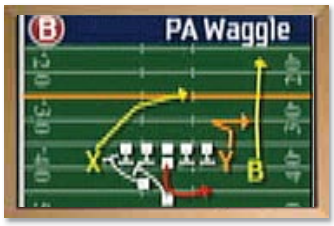
A — Strong I-Twin TE
1st & 2nd down, or short yardage



• HB Blast
L.T. is one of the hardest running backs to bring down. This play has him following the fullback through the hole between the right guard and right tackle to pick up tough yardage.



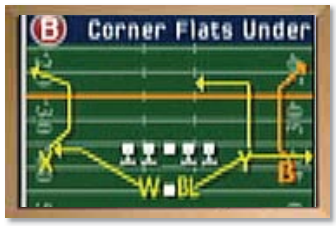
B — Weak I-Close
Any down, after established run



• PA Waggle
The Weak I-Close PA Waggle is a safe play to call around the goal line to get the ball to the Chargers best receiver Antonio Gates. After the quarterback fakes the handoff, roll him out to the right and look for Gates as he breaks to the sideline.



C — Shotgun-2RB Flex
Any down, after established run



• Corner Flats Under
With Philip Rivers taking over as the new Charger QB, running simple, high percentage pass plays is the best way to move the ball. A good safe pass play to call is the Corner Flats Under. Look for the halfback or fullback in the flats for a decent pick up.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Singleback-Normal Slot	PA HB Look, Slants, Quick Hits, PA Rollout	**I Form Twin TE**	HB Lead Dive, HB Counter, FB Dive Strong, HB Counter
Shotgun- 2RB Flex	Motion Post, TE Corner, TE Middle, Curls	**Strong I-Normal Flex**	Off Tackle, HB Dive, FB Dive, HB Dive Weak

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Nick Hardwick	86	87	60	72
C	Scott Mruczkowski	66	82	51	54
FB	Lorenzo Neal	99	77	60	90
FB	Andrew Pinnock	65	65	71	53
HB	LaDainian Tomlinson	97	72	95	90
HB	Michael Turner	80	73	91	69
HB	Darren Sproles	72	55	92	58
LG	Kris Dielman	82	90	53	74
LG	Jimmy Martin	73	83	61	60
LT	Roman Oben	86	91	52	90
LT	Marcus McNeill	75	92	63	56
QB	Philip Rivers	83	56	56	77
QB	Charlie Whitehurst	73	62	62	62
QB	A.J. Feeley	70	59	54	69
RG	Mike Goff	91	94	50	93
RG	Wes Sims	64	88	4560	
RG	David Binn	62	75	57	75
RT	Shane Olivea	85	90	54	77
RT	Leander Jordan	77	89	58	73
TE	Antonio Gates	99	75	87	85
TE	Brandon Manumaleuna	78	80	67	70
TE	Aaron Shea	76	67	66	75
WR	Keenan McCardell	88	57	87	95
WR	Eric Parker	79	44	89	78
WR	Rashaun Woods	74	58	87	60
WR	Kassim Osgood	74	63	87	64
WR	Vincent Jackson	74	64	89	56
WR	Malcom Floyd	68	45	88	50

Coaching Profile

Marty Schottenheimer

• **Head Coaching Year:** 21st
• **Experience:** In 17 full seasons as a head coach in the NFL, Schottenheimer has led his teams to 12 winning seasons.

Ninth on the NFL's all-time list with 165 regular-season wins, Schottenheimer is 12-20 in two seasons as head coach of the Chargers. He spent 2001 as the Washington Redskins head coach and director of football operations.

Detailed Package Info

San Diego Chargers

• **Formation:** Split Back 3WR
• **Package:** TE Slot
• **Play:** Curls
• **Advantage:** This puts tight end Antonio Gates in the slot. He runs a curl route over the middle where he can use his playmaking ability to make the catch.

• **Formation:** Singleback-WR Spread
• **Package:** HB Slot
• **Play:** Double Smash
• **Advantage**: LaDainian Tomlinson is known for his great running skill throughout the league, but he also has hands of glue as a pass catcher. This package lines him up in the slot.

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Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

We should think about using some of the cap room we've got. We've got plenty of room under the cap to make an important hire. Our coaches can't complain – we pay them top dollar. Fans are generally happy with our merchandise prices.

Team Salary: 75.1M
Cap Room: 30.3M
Key Rival: Oakland Raiders
NFL Icons:
- LaDainian Tomlinson

Philosophy:
- Offense: Establish Run
- Defense: Shut Down Runs

Prestige: Medium
Team Needs:
- Defensive Line
- Defensive Back

Highest Paid Players:
- LaDainian Tomlinson
- Philip Rivers

Up and Coming Players:
- Luis Castillo
- Shawne Merriman

Team Trivia

San Diego Chargers Facts

Answers are on the following page.

1 Who coached the Chargers to more victories in the 20th century than any other head coach?

2 Whose team record did LaDainian Tomlinson break when he rushed for 1,683 yards in 2002?

Key Defensive Plays

A 3-4-Normal

1st & 2nd down, attack the run



• Renegade

It works best as a run defense. It can be used for pass defense, but the pass coverage is suspect because only three defenders drop back in pass coverage. The Chargers don't have a good secondary, so this defense can be a bit risky against the pass.



B 3-4-Over

1st & 2nd down, bring the heat



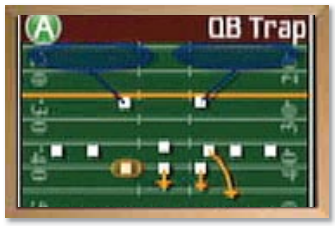
• Trio Sky Zone

LOLB Shawne Merriman is a beast as a pass rusher. This play gives him the opportunity to put pressure on QB. The pass coverage is solid with three defenders guarding underneath and three defenders dropping back in deep coverage.



C Quarter-Normal

3rd down, bring the heat



• QB Trap

It's a good defense to call because both safeties drop back deep, while five defenders drop back in man coverage. The number-two free safety comes in on a blitz, while the right end drops back and spies the quarterback.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
3-4-Normal	Renegade, Cover 1, Crash Blitz, MLB Storm Blitz	**3-4-Solid**	2 Man Under, Cover 3, Drop Zone, Double Man
Dime-3-2-6	Fire Blitz, 2 Deep LB Blitz, DB Dogs 1, Zero Blitz	**Quarter-Normal**	2 Man Under Spy, Cover 2, 4 Across, Prevent

2005–06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Quentin Jammer	84	62	95	72
CB	Drayton Florence	81	63	91	72
CB	Antonio Cromartie	78	67	94	45
CB	Raymond Walls	66	46	87	60
DT	Jamal Williams	96	98	54	88
DT	Ryon Bingham	68	78	58	58
DT	Chase Page	66	82	63	45
FS	Marlon McCree	85	64	85	80
FS	Bhawoh Jue	72	52	90	54
LE	Luis Castillo	83	91	64	67
LE	Derreck Robinson	66	77	65	60
LOLB	Shawne Merriman	92	81	86	76
LOLB	Marques Harris	66	66	79	50
MLB	Donnie Edwards	91	66	85	95
MLB	Randall Godfrey	86	73	75	90
MLB	Stephen Cooper	71	72	76	70
MLB	Matt Wilhelm	68	74	73	72
RE	Igor Olshansky	80	88	62	65
RE	Jacques Cesaire	74	78	69	60
ROLB	Steve Foley	86	78	83	85
ROLB	Shaun Phillips	78	74	79	72
SS	Terrence Kiel	80	68	85	71
SS	Clinton Hart	71	53	84	66

Special Teams

K	Nate Kaeding	87	28	58	70
P	Mike Scifres	84	42	62	68

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Los Angeles, CA | **Starting Year:** 1959 | **League:** AFC

Franchise Beginnings

The Chargers' history began in 1959, when franchise owner Barron Hilton became a part of the eight-team American Football League. After playing one season in Los Angeles in 1960, the franchise moved to San Diego in 1961, where the team has remained ever since. The team won an AFL Championship in 1963, beating the Boston Patriots 51-10. After the AFL/NFL merger in 1970, the Chargers have made seven trips to the playoffs, three appearances in the AFC Championship game, and one Super Bowl appearance (XXIX).

Notable Moments

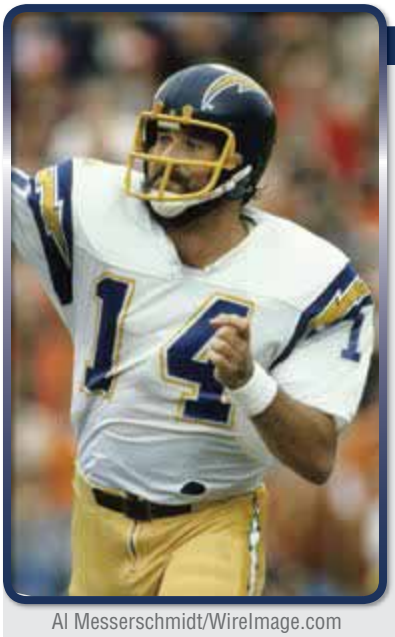
• 1963 AFL Championship

On January 5, 1964, the Chargers steamrolled the Boston Patriots 51-10 to secure the team's first ever league championship. San Diego fullback Keith Lincoln rushed for 206 yards and the team wound up with an impressive 610 yards of overall offense.

• Super Bowl XXIX

The Chargers' first Super Bowl appearance on January 29, 1995 ended with a 26-49 loss to the San Francisco 49ers. Chargers quarterback Stan Humphries passed for 275 yards, and Andre Coleman became the third player in Super Bowl history to return a kickoff for a touchdown.

Notable Figures



Al Messerschmidt/WireImage.com

Dan Fouts ('73-'87)

Fouts played for 15 seasons before retiring after the 1987 season. In that time, this prolific passer completed 3,297 passes for 43,040 yards and 254 touchdowns. He was a main reason why the Chargers won AFC Western Division championships in 1979, 1980, and 1981. Fouts was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1993.

Charlie Joiner ('76-'86)

In 1975 Charlie Joiner was traded to the San Diego Chargers where he remained for 11 seasons before retiring after the 1986 season. By the time he retired, he had set new NFL records for receivers with 750 catches and 239 games played. He was elected into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1996.

Kellen Winslow ('79-'87)

He was drafted in the first round of the 1979 NFL draft by the Chargers and played for them until 1987. Despite several knee injuries, Winslow played in five Pro Bowls and is highly regarded as one of the greatest tight ends in NFL history. Winslow was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1995 and made the NFL 1980s All-Decade Team.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• The Chargers have only retired one jersey number: **#14** (Dan Fouts).

• On Dec. 28, 2003, in a win against the Oakland Raiders, Chargers running back LaDainian Tomlinson became the first player in NFL history to rush for **1,000 yards** and catch **100 passes** in the same season.

• Chargers Hall of Famer **Kellen Winslow's son** (Kellen Winslow Jr.) is the tight end for the Cleveland Browns.

• In 1978, legendary Chargers wide receiver Lance Alworth was the **first-ever AFL player** inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

• Except for color changes, the Chargers have used the logo of an arc-shaped lightning bolt since the team debuted in 1960.

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:
Dan Fouts ('73-'87) **3,297**

• Passing Yards:
Dan Fouts ('73-'87) **43,040**

• Passing Touchdowns:
Dan Fouts ('73-'87) **254**

• Receptions:
Charlie Joiner ('76-'86) **586**

• Receiving Yards:
Lance Alworth ('62-'70) **9,585**

• Receiving Touchdowns:
Lance Alworth ('62-'70) **81**

• Rushing Yards:
LaDainian Tomlinson ('01-'06) **7,361**

• Rushing Touchdowns:
LaDainian Tomlinson ('01-'06) **72**

• Career Points Leader:
John Carney ('90-'00) **1,060**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:
Leslie O'Neal ('86, '88-'95) **105.5**

• Interceptions:
Gill Byrd ('83-'92) **42**

Team Trivia

Answers

❶ Sid Gillman coached the Chargers through the AFL days of the 1960s, except for the last five games of the 1969 season. He then coached them for the first 10 games of 1971. He finished his career with a win/loss record of 87-57-6.

❷ Natrone Means' 1,350 yards set a record in 1994.

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KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

Division: AFC West | **Stadium:** Arrowhead Stadium | **Type:** Open | **Capacity:** 79,451 | **Surface:** Grass



2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
10	6	0	403	325	7-1	3-5	9-3	1-3	4-2

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	89
Offense	91
Defense	86

Team Rankings

Scoring	6th
Passing Offense	6th
Rushing Offense	4th
Passing Defense	30th
Rushing Defense	7th
Turnovers	8th

TEAM STRATEGY

Playing As: Kansas City Chiefs

1. Pound the ball with Larry Johnson behind the best offensive line as many times as you can during the game.
2. Get the ball to Tony Gonzalez in critical situations. Few defenders can cover him in one-on-one coverage.
3. Play a lot of zone coverage without blitzing and allow the defensive line to generate a pass rush on its own.

Playing Against: Kansas City Chiefs

1. Do not allow Johnson to run wild. Use whatever means necessary to stop him. If you don't, the Chiefs' play action game will be even more effective.
2. When the Chiefs must throw the ball, double team Gonzalez. The Chiefs' receivers on the outside can be handled with just one defender on each of them.
3. Attack the Chiefs' cornerbacks early and often. They will have a hard time defending the pass consistently. .

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• Rising star Larry Johnson looks to have a monster season after rushing for more than 1,700 yards in just nine games. He has a chance to break the single-season rushing record set by Eric Dickerson, who owns it with 2,105 yards in 1984. He has good chance because he will be running behind the best offensive line. Tight end Tony Gonzalez looks to have Pro Bowl–type season.

Weaknesses

• Trent Green is getting up there in the years. If he goes down to injury, none of the backups are capable of leading the Chiefs to the playoffs. Outside of Eddie Kennison there are no other consistent receiving threats on the team. Without the threat of a second receiver, defenses can load up with eight in the box to stop the rushing attack.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• Jared Allen registered 11 sacks from his defensive end spot in 2005 despite being double teamed. Middle linebacker Kawika Mitchell posted a team high 105 tackles and also had two forced fumble recoveries. Outside linebacker Derrick Johnson had a solid rookie season placing second in tackles with 95. Do not be surprised if Johnson leads the team in that same category in 2006.

Weaknesses

• Both starting cornerbacks have been released. The two new starters are former Bronco Lenny Walls and former Ram Chris Johnson. Neither is a household name. For them to succeed in pass coverage, the Chiefs need someone else other than Allen to step up and put pressure on the quarterback. Last season the defense as a whole registered only 29 sacks.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Ian Allen	Cardinals	OT	6'4"	313
FA	NA	Chris Johnson	Rams	CB	5'11"	198
FA	NA	Lenny Walls	Broncos	CB	6'4"	195
Rookie	1	Tamba Hali	Penn St.	DE	6'3"	262
Rookie	2	Bernard Pollard	Purdue	S	6'2"	226

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Larry Johnson • Halfback (HB) #27

Showcase Plays for Johnson

Strong I-Twin WR



HB Power

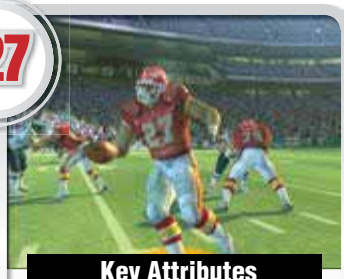
• Getting Johnson outside with the fullback and offensive lineman blocking is a wise decision. The Strong I-Twin HB Power is one of those plays that makes picking up yardage seem easy. The right guard pulls to the right and the fullback lead blocks. As long as those two make the correct blocks, expect to pick up some good yardage.

Singleback-Big Twin TE



HB Plunge

• Usually when the defense sees two tight ends lined up on the same side they assume Johnson is going to run to that side and adjust accordingly. The problem is the HB Plunge is not designed to have Johnson run to the double tight end side. Instead he runs between the center and left guard where there is plenty of room to pick up yardage.



Key Attributes

Awareness	86
Agility	90
Break Tackle	96
Speed	93

If he started the full season in 2005, he might have shattered the single-season rushing yardage record by 500 yards. In the nine games Johnson started, he rushed for 1,750 yards. During that nine-game stretch, he also scored 20 touchdowns. NFL analysts are already predicting that he will break the 2,000-yard mark in 2006 and set a new single season rushing record.

Tony Gonzalez • Tight End (TE) #88

Showcase Plays for Gonzalez

Strong I-Flex



PA Post Corner

• With the defense so concerned with stopping the rushing attack, Gonzalez will find plenty of room downfield to pick up big-time yardage through the air. The Strong I-Flex PA Post Corner has Gonzalez lined up in the slot. Once he makes his break to the corner, rifle him the ball.

Singleback-Trips TE



TE Shake Out

• Gonzalez has the speed to shake loose even the best coverage linebackers in the game. The Shake Out has Gonzalez stepping inside for few steps before breaking to the outside. Right when he makes his break, he gets separation from the defender covering him. As soon as he gets a few steps on his man, make the throw.



Key Attributes

Strength	69
Awareness	94
Catching	92
Run Block	55

Outside of the Chargers' Antonio Gates, Tony Gonzalez remains the most feared tight end in the game. He has the speed, agility, athleticism, and hands of an elite NFL receiver. The difference between him and a receiver is he much bigger. He is too fast for most linebackers to cover deep down the field and he is too big for most defensive backs to defend.

Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

• **Position:** HB
•**Substitution:** Priest Holmes
• **When:** Pass situations
• **Advantage:** Priest Holmes may be getting up there in the years, but he still has the hands to catch the ball and speed to take it to the house when coming out of the backfield as a receiver. Replace Johnson in obvious passing situations.

• **Position:** FB
• **Substitution:** Kris Wilson
• **When:** Global
• **Advantage:** With Tony Gonzalez starting at tight end and Jason Dunn backing him up, Wilson won't see much playing time at tight end. By moving him to fullback he will see some time.

• **Position:** LE
• **Substitution:** Carlos Hall
• **When:** Pass situations
• **Advantage:** Eric Hicks is the team's most talented defensive linemen, but he does not have the speed to be a consistent pass rusher off the edge.

Fantasy Outlook

• **Star:** Larry Johnson
• **Draft:** 1st round
• **2006 Outlook:** Could be in for a monster year. A number-one or number-two pick overall. If he puts up the type of numbers experts expect he will, you can count him like two draft picks for the price of one.

• **Star:** Tony Gonzalez
• **Draft:** 5th round
• **2006 Outlook:** The second best fantasy league tight end in the game. He's good for at least 800 yards and 10 TDs. If he is around in the fifth or sixth round, snatch him up.

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Coaching Profile

Herman Edwards

- **Head Coaching Year:** 6th
- **Experience:** Head coach of the New York Jets for five seasons (2001-2005).

Edwards was a participant in the NFL's Minority Coaching Fellowship Program in the summer of 1989 with the Chiefs. In 2004, Edwards guided the Jets to the postseason for the third time in his four seasons. He is the only coach in Jets history with three trips to the postseason.

TEAM STRATEGY

Detailed Package Info

Kansas City Chiefs

- **Formation:** I Form-Twin TE
- **Package:** Heavy
- **Play:** HB Lead Toss
- **Advantage:** If the Chiefs' offensive line wasn't already strong enough, the Heavy package adds an extra offensive lineman to the lineup.

- **Formation:** Singleback-Slot Strong
- **Package:** TE Slot
- **Play:** PA Cross Up
- **Advantage:** Tony Gonzalez is the one of top tight ends in the game. Having him line up in the slot against a linebacker or safety is a major advantage for the offense.

- **Formation:** Nickel-Normal
- **Package:** Strong Nickel
- **Play:** Inside LB Fire
- **Advantage:** Linebacker Derrick Johnson needs to be on the field at all times. This package places him in the Nickel where he is sent in on a QB rush.

Key Offensive Plays

A I Form-Normal

1st & 2nd down



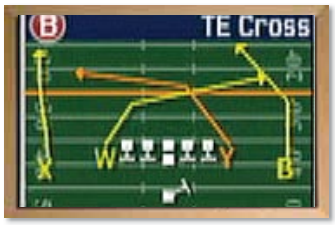
• HB Lead Toss

Running to the same side as All Pro left tackle Willie Roaf is a good to pick up yardage. This play has Roaf and left guard Brian Waters pulling to the left side of the field. With these road pavers out in front, there should be plenty of room to run for daylight.



B Singleback-Big

1st, &2nd down, work the pass



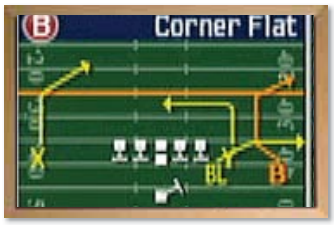
• TE Cross

Priest Holmes still remains one of the most elusive running backs in the game. Use the I Form-Twin TE HB Counter Str to allow him to get outside in space where he can break some ankles with his agility and speed.



C Singleback-Trips TE

Any passing down situation



• Corner Flats

Eddie Kennison is by far the most consistent threat to make the big play. Against Cover 2 zone, he will be open once he breaks to the corner. If the defense plays Cover 4, look for Tony Gonzalez in the flat for an easy pass completion.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Stong-Normal Flex	HB Dive Weak, HB Draw Counter Dive, FB Dive	Singleback Big	HB Dive, HB Counter, HB Slant 18, HB Draw
Shotgun 2RB Flex	PA TE Cross, HB Screen, PA Smash Shake, WR Slant Out	I Form-Normal	HB Lead Dive, HB Toss, WR Around, FB Fake Toss

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Casey Wiegmann	91	85	61	91
C	Chris Bober	82	87	52	79
FB	Ronnie Cruz	68	64	84	59
HB	Larry Johnson	96	82	93	86
HB	Priest Holmes	88	70	88	93
HB	Quentin Griffin	72	53	92	70
HB	Dee Brown	64	62	85	58
LG	Brian Waters	94	90	60	85
LG	Ian Allen	75	89	48	67
LT	Willie Roaf	97	94	55	98
LT	Kevin Sampson	72	86	48	67
QB	Trent Green	91	52	51	96
QB	Brodie Croyle	75	48	55	62
QB	Damon Huard	71	55	53	70
RG	Will Shields	97	91	53	97

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
RG	Tre Stallings	69	85	50	60
RT	Kyle Turley	83	80	60	80
RT	Jordan Black	80	90	51	79
TE	Tony Gonzalez	97	69	84	94
TE	Jason Dunn	82	75	69	72
TE	Kris Wilson	75	63	77	68
WR	Eddie Kennison	87	54	92	89
WR	Samie Parker	79	37	94	68
WR	Dante Hall	78	50	97	72
WR	Craphonso Thorpe	72	42	92	55
WR	Jeris McIntyre	67	58	90	50

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Key Defensive Plays

A 4-3-Under
1st & 2nd down, attack the run



• Edge Sting
This play does a good job at putting the Chiefs' outside linebackers in position to stop outside run plays. It also does a good job at bringing pressure on the QB. Don't over use it because the cornerbacks may not be able to handle the receivers outside.



B 4-3-Normal
1st & 2nd down, defend the pass



• Flat Four
This is a good nickel defense to blanket the deep portions of the field. The pass coverage underneath is adequate with both linebackers dropping back in hook zones and the defensive ends covering the flats.



C Dime-Normal
3rd & long, passing situation



• Cover 2 Sink
The cornerbacks sink into hook zones. If the offense tries to throw into the flats, the CBs will still be in good position to make the tackle. The only downfall is it's a three-man pass rush. This puts the pressure on the defensive linemen to get after the QB.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
4-3-Normal	Engage Eight, Free Fire, Under Ram Buck, Mid Rush	**46-Normal**	2 Man Under, Cover 3, Cover 2, Safe
Nickel-3-3-5	Engage Eight, Outside Blitz, Corner Blitz, Monster Blitz	**Dime Normal**	2 Man Under, Cover 3, Cover 2 Pinch, Quarters Spy

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Patrick Surtain	92	48	90	94
CB	Lenny Walls	78	65	87	76
CB	Benny Sapp	72	45	93	62
CB	Julian Battle	70	49	86	62
CB	Chris Johnson	68	47	96	53
DT	Ryan Sims	82	84	62	68
DT	Lional Dalton	77	88	47	78
DT	John Browning	75	80	62	70
DT	Ron Edwards	75	86	58	67
DT	Junior Siavii	71	89	61	42
FS	Greg Wesley	86	66	84	74
FS	William Bartee	82	52	88	75
LE	Eric Hicks	84	77	73	86
LOLB	Derrick Johnson	88	71	87	75
LOLB	Keyaron Fox	69	64	82	49
MLB	Kawika Mitchell	84	77	78	79
MLB	Boomer Grigsby	67	72	77	58
MLB	Rich Scanlon	65	68	73	67
RE	Jared Allen	87	72	79	74
RE	Tamba Hali	79	81	65	60
RE	Carlos Hall	77	67	77	66
ROLB	Kendrell Bell	85	81	77	80
ROLB	Kris Griffin	69	63	78	54
SS	Sammy Knight	87	65	79	87
SS	Bernard Pollard	78	72	86	60

Special Teams

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
K	Lawrence Tynes	82	40	55	67
P	Dustin Colquitt	74	40	54	55

Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

Our coaches are among the most highly paid in the industry. It's time to end our two-year absence from the playoffs. Merchandise prices are right where they should be. Our ticket prices are right where they should be.

Team Salary: 77.0M
Cap Room: 28.4M
Key Rival: Oakland Raiders
NFL Icons: Tony Gonzalez
Philosophy:
- Offense: West Coast
- Defense: Contain Passing

Prestige: Medium
Team Needs:
- Linebacker
- Defensive Line

Highest Paid Players:
- Trent Green
- Priest Holmes

Up and Coming Players:
- Derrick Johnson
- Jared Allen

Team Trivia

Kansas City Chiefs Facts

Answers are on the following page.

1 Which Chiefs' head coach played quarterback and graduated from San Jose State?

2 Which Chief played college basketball at the University of California, and also attended a tryout for the Miami Heat NBA franchise?

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Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:
Len Dawson ('63-'75) **2,115**

• Passing Yards:
Len Dawson ('63-'75) **28,507**

• Passing Touchdowns:
Len Dawson ('63-'75) **237**

• Receptions:
Tony Gonzalez ('97-'06) **648**

• Receiving Yards:
Otis Taylor ('65-'75) **7,810**

• Receiving Touchdowns:
Otis Taylor ('65-'75) **57**

• Rushing Yards:
Priest Holmes ('01-'06) **5,933**

• Rushing Touchdowns:
Priest Holmes ('01-'06) **76**

• Career Points Leader:
Nick Lowery ('80-'93) **1,466**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:
Derrick Thomas ('89-'99) **126.5**

• Interceptions:
Emmitt Thomas ('66-'78) **58**

Team Trivia

Answers

1 Dick Vermeil. Dick was also the first coach to guide a team to victory in both the Rose Bowl and the Super Bowl.

2 Tony Gonzalez played forward for the California Bears, and still states that his first love is basketball.

FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Dallas, TX | **Starting Year:** 1965 | **League:** AFC

Franchise Beginnings

Owner Lamar Hunt established the team along with their original league, the American Football League, in 1960. The team moved to Kansas City and became the Chiefs in 1963 after then-Kansas City mayor H. Roe Bartle guaranteed the team increased ticket sales. They were the first AFL team to play in the Super Bowl in 1967 against the Green Bay Packers. They also have the distinction of being the last AFL team to ever play when they beat the Vikings in Super Bowl IV. Since then they have won five AFC West Division titles.

Notable Moments

• Super Bowl I
On January 15, 1967, the Chiefs represented the AFL in the first-ever World Championship game between that league and the NFL. Unfortunately, the Chiefs lost 10-35 to the Green Bay Packers. The Chiefs' lone touchdown came on a pass from Len Dawson to Curtis McClinton.

• Super Bowl IV
On January 11, 1970, in New Orleans, Kansas City routed the Minnesota Vikings 23-7. There was no doubt about the outcome once the Chiefs built a 16-0 lead by halftime. The Chiefs' defense limited Minnesota to 67 rushing yards and forced five turnovers.

Notable Figures



James Flores/WireImage.com

Hank Stram ('60-'74)

As the franchise's first coach, Stram built an impressive record of 136-100-10 and led the Chiefs to a string of championships capped off with a Super Bowl IV win. He pioneered innovations such as the moving pocket, the double tight end offense, and stack defense. Stram was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2003.

Lamar Hunt ('59-'05)

Hunt is one of the founding fathers of the modern-day NFL, but when he first put together his football franchise in 1959, success was hardly a guarantee. Hunt was one of the key figures in establishing the American Football League, and he was the owner of the team that eventually became the Kansas City Chiefs.

Len Dawson (1963-1975)

Known for his pinpoint passing, Len Dawson's mobility helped him flourish in Stram's "movable pocket" offense. He would win four AFL passing titles and was selected as a league All-Star six times, ending the 10-year run of the league as its highest-rated career passer. In 1987, his induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• The Chiefs have retired eight jersey numbers: **#3** (Jan Stenerud), **#16** (Len Dawson), **#28** (Abner Haynes), **#33** (Stone Johnson), **#36** (Mack Lee Hill), **#63** (Willie Lanier), **#78** (Bobby Bell), and **#86** (Buck Buchanan).

• Team owner **Lamar Hunt** was the first Chiefs representative elected to the Hall of Fame. He was inducted in 1972.

• On December 14, 2003, in a 45-17 win against Detroit, Chiefs quarterback Trent Green became the first player in team history to register a **perfect 158.3 passer rating** in a single game.

• Hank Stram was the only head coach the Chiefs had for the **entire life span** of the AFL.

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INDIANAPOLIS COLTS

Division: AFC South | **Stadium:** RCA Dome | **Type:** Dome | **Capacity:** 57,890 | **Surface:** Turf

2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
14	2	0	439	247	7-1	7-1	11-1	3-1	6-0

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	90
Offense	91
Defense	87

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Team Rankings

Scoring	2nd
Passing Offense	13rd
Rushing Offense	16th
Passing Defense	15th
Rushing Defense	16th
Turnovers	7th

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• Peyton Manning is the man in charge of the offense and even with the loss of Edgerrin James, the offense is still scary. The Colts added rookie Joseph Addai through the draft to help replace Edge. The team did have good news by re-signing receiver Reggie Wayne. As long as there are passing options for Manning, nothing will stop this potent offense

Weaknesses

• The only concern is the loss of Edgerrin James. Many believe the offense really ran through him because of all the play action the Colts use. The key now is how capable is Dominic Rhodes of filling that role? He has to make defenses respect him as a run threat. If not, the play action won't work. So Dominic Rhodes must fill this role or the offense could look unfamiliar to many fans.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• The defensive ends of the Colts are the face of the defense. Corey Simon now anchors the middle of the defensive line and Cato June still runs the linebacking group. The safeties are solid and never really have to rely on all their skills with the pressure they are afforded from the front line.

Weaknesses

• There is really no serious issue with the defense. Over the past few years the offense has put up so many points that the defense hasn't been forced to carry the team. Corey Simon has to be in better shape now that he is the main man at the defensive tackle position.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Shaun King	Lions	QB	6'1"	228
FA	NA	Adam Vinatieri	Patriots	K	6'0"	202
Rookie	1	Joseph Addai	LSU	RB	5'11"	215
Rookie	2	Tim Jennings	Georgia	CB	5'8"	186
Rookie	3	Freddie Keiaho	San Diego State	LB	5'11"	227



Playing As: Indianapolis Colts

1. Throw early and often to your running backs and receiving group.
2. Use new rookie running back Joseph Addai's amazing speed out of the backfield.
3. Pressure with your defensive ends and get after the QB all day long.

Playing Against: Indianapolis Colts

1. So how do you beat the Colts? Force Manning out the pocket.
2. Get him into scrambling situations and because of his lack of speed the defense should get sacks from this.
3. Versus their defense, throw short pass routes and roll your QB out away from the d-ends.

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Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

- **Position:** HB
- **Substitution:** Joseph Addai
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** It's going to be hard to replace Edgerrin James but Addai has the most potential. He is faster than Rhodes and has better hands but the key element that puts him over the top is his pass and run blocking.

- **Position:** DT 2
- **Substitution:** Raheem Brock
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** DTs are not known for speed but with his strength and speed, one false move by the O-line can turn into a sack.

- **Position:** LOLB
- **Substitution:** Freddie Keiaho
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** We start the rookie LB right away because of his speed. Anything we can do to make this defense even a little faster is a plus. Adding him makes our linebackers no slower than an 80 in speed.

Fantasy Outlook

- **Star:** Peyton Manning
- **Draft:** 1st round
- **2006 Outlook:** Best fantasy quarterback in the league hands down although he will be hard pressed to throw TDs this season again.

- **Star:** Marvin Harrison
- **Draft:** 3rd round
- **2006 Outlook:** His numbers will continue to slip because of the continued emergence of Reggie Wayne and Brandon Stokely, but he still remains Manning's number one target.

Star Players

Payton Manning • Quarterback (QB) #18



Key Attributes

Awareness	99
Speed	59
Throwing Power	95
Throwing Accuracy	98

If Tom Brady is the Joe Montana of this era then Peyton Manning is the Dan Marino. Manning has one of the best offensive minds in football and is one of the best passers of all time. When playing with the Colts he can make any pass needed and has a very strong, accurate arm.

Showcase Plays for Manning

Singleback-Big Twin WR



Wayne Option

- Peyton Manning is one of the best quarterbacks in the NFL and he also is one of the best at going to the right option based on what the defense gives him. As the play develops, Manning drops back into position and reads the defense's coverage. Once he sees the sideline open, he throws the ball to the split end.

I Form-Normal



Play Action

- Everyone knows that Peyton Manning and the Colts are one of the best teams when using play action in their passing game. Manning is so good at the play action that defenses routinely get beat by it. In the I Form-Normal Play Action, Manning starts the play with a great play action fake and hits the tight end coming across the middle for easy yards.

Marvin Harrison • Wider Receiver (WR) #88



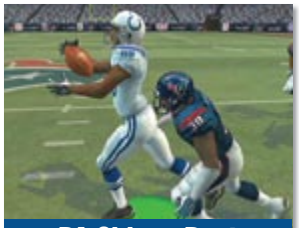
Key Attributes

Awareness	99
Acceleration	97
Catching	99
Speed	95

Arguably the best receiver in football, Marvin Harrison is a true professional who is on the field to win regardless of numbers. He has been the receiver most often in the end zone over the last several seasons. Use Marvin to beat the defense anyway you want. Slants, curls hooks, fades, whatever it may be, he does it the best.

Showcase Plays for Harrison

Shotgun-2RB 3WR



PA Skinny Post

- Marvin Harrison is capable of running any route that can be thrown, but a route that we see him in often is the skinny post. When the play starts, Harrison gets upfield and then breaks behind the slot receiver to squeeze past the defender and make the catch coming across the middle.

Shotgun-Slot Strong



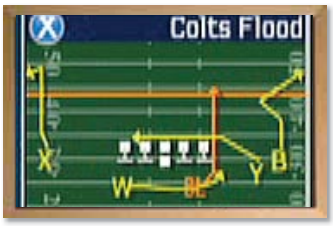
Stokley Option

- The Shotgun-Slot Strong Stokley Option gives Marvin Harrison a chance to be in a trips formation and forces the defense to either play him one-on-one or bracket him with a zone. As Harrison runs his route, he gets just enough space in between the two defenders to go up and make the routine catch.

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Key Offensive Plays

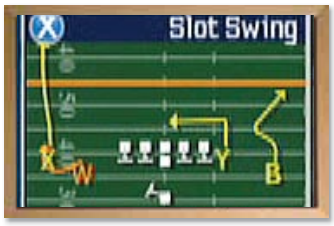
A Split Backs-3WR
1st & 2nd down



• Colts Flood
Peyton Manning and the Colts offense run like clockwork because, Manning knows where he has an open receiver. In the Colts Flood, Manning hits key possession receiver Brandon Stokley running across the middle for a first down.



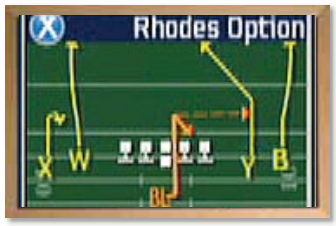
B Singleback-Dice
1st, 2nd, 3rd down



• Slot Swing
We can go to Harrison or Wayne, but we are making an effort of establishing Brandon Stokley in the offense. The Slot Swing is a new route in the game and Stokley almost runs in place at the snap and then takes off when the ball is in the air for the swing route.



C Singleback-4WR
Any down passing situations



• Rhodes Option
Rhodes shows he can get the job done here. In this play it's not about getting Rhodes the ball but the fact that he holds the middle defender so that our deep post route can be thrown for the touchdown.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Shotgun-Normal Slot	PA Slot Post, PA Come backs, TE Shallow	**I-Form Normal**	HB Dive, HB Counter, HB Toss, FB Fake HB Toss
Singleback-Normal Slot	Slants, PA Boot Lt, Curl Flats, PA HB Look	**Shotgun-Normal**	HB Mid Draw, HB Direct Snap, HB Off Tackle, HB Delay

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Jeff Saturday	96	90	58	95
C	Mike Johnson	67	84	55	49
FB	James Mungro	78	68	86	68
HB	Dominic Rhodes	83	68	89	76
HB	Joseph Addai	80	68	94	57
HB	Kory Chapman	69	61	85	54
HB	Vashon Pearson	68	64	88	46
LG	Ryan Lilja	76	85	55	69
LG	Matt Ulrich	70	87	48	62
LT	Tarik Glenn	95	95	52	92
LT	Makoa Freitas	76	87	51	66
LT	Charlie Johnson	68	85	64	47
QB	Peyton Manning	99	64	59	99
QB	Shaun King	74	49	64	72
QB	Jim Sorgi	70	52	62	68

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
RG	Jake Scott	78	87	56	68
RG	Dylan Gandy	73	84	56	53
RT	Ryan Diem	90	95	50	80
RT	Michael Toudouze	65	87	50	46
TE	Dallas Clark	87	66	86	75
TE	Bryan Fletcher	78	68	80	71
TE	Ben Hartsock	75	72	68	66
WR	Marvin Harrison	97	47	95	99
WR	Reggie Wayne	92	56	89	92
WR	Brandon Stokley	83	53	92	83
WR	John Standeford	75	52	88	63
WR	Aaron Moorehead	72	59	85	64

Coaching Profile

Tony Dungy

- **Head Coaching Year:** 5th
- **Experience:** Prior to coming to Indy, Dungy served as head coach at Tampa Bay. He compiled a 56-46 record and led the club to the playoffs four times.

Dungy has directed six of his eight Colts and Buccaneers teams to the playoffs, twice being a conference finalist. He has produced five career double-digit victory totals.

Detailed Package Info

Indianapolis Colts

- **Formation:** Split Backs-3WR
- **Package**: Strong Slot
- **Play:** Curls
- **Advantage:** Marvin Harrison is a great receiver and lining him up in the Slot makes him even harder to defend. In most cases this matches Harrison with the nickel back, safety, or OLB.

- **Formation**: Shotgun-4WR
- **Package:** WR Strong
- **Play:** Stoakley Option
- **Advantage:** Lets us overload the defense by putting Harrison on the same side of the field as Wayne.

- **Formation:** 4-3-Normal
- **Package:** LB Flip
- **Play:** June Blitz
- **Advantage**: We can move Cato June around with this package and keep him blitzing from many different spots on the defense.

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TEAM STRATEGY

Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

We've got plenty of room under the cap to make an important hire. We're doing a great job making the playoffs every year. The fans are generally happy with ticket prices. Let's try to keep food prices right where they are.

Team Salary: 70.8M
Cap Room: 34.6M
Key Rival: Tennessee Titans
NFL Icons: Peyton Manning
Philosophy:
- Offense: Establish Pass
- Defense: Contain Passing

Prestige: Medium High
Team Needs:
- Running Back
- Linebacker

Highest Paid Players:
- Peyton Manning
- Marvin Harrison

Up and Coming Players:
- Marlin Jackson
- Joseph Addai

Team Trivia

Indianapolis Colts Facts

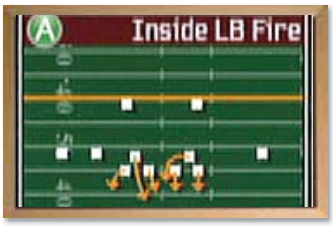
Answers are on the following page.

1 What was the name of the owner who moved the Colts to Indianapolis?

2 Which league did the Colts play in before joining the NFL in 1950?

Key Defensive Plays

A Nickel-Normal
passing situation



• Inside LB Fire
The Inside LB Fire does this, and adds two blitzing linebackers to the party. When the quarterback on this play drops back to make a throw, Freeney is already around the edge and the QB steps up and gets blasted by our inside linebacker.



B 4-3-Over
1st & 2nd down



• SS Blitz
This is a Cover 1 defense and only Doss is being used to add pressure on the play. Before the snap, Doss walks up just outside the line of scrimmage and then at the snap takes off and sacks the quarterback.



C Dime Normal
3rd & long



• Strike 2 Deep
The Strike 2 Deep is our play of choice for situations like this. The defense lets us bring pressure with our nickel and dime backs, and with their speed it can be more effective than other blitzes. In this case it is, as Kelvin Hayden takes the QB down for a sack.



Offensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
4-3 Under	Free Fire, Edge Sting, Crash Right, Sam Shoot Fire 2	**Dime-3-2-6**	Cover 3, Cover 2, Cover 4, DB Contain
Nickel-Normal	Under Smoke, Inside LB Fire, CB Blitz	**Nickel-3-3-5**	2 Man Under, 3 Man Under, 3 Deep, Under 7 Slice

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Depth Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Skill
CB	Marlin Jackson	83	66	88	74
CB	Jason David	82	45	88	74
CB	Von Hutchins	74	52	90	65
CB	Kelvin Hayden	73	59	90	43
CB	Tim Jennings	73	39	96	56
DT	Corey Simon	92	87	65	85
DT	Raheem Brock	85	76	76	76
DT	Montae Reagor	83	79	66	77
DT	Vincent Burns	65	72	65	59
FS	Bob Sanders	90	60	93	78
FS	Gerome Sapp	71	63	83	67
LE	Robert Mathis	89	67	85	75
LE	Josh Thomas	72	68	72	54
LOLB	Gilbert Gardner	78	69	77	70
LOLB	Freddie Keiaho	75	69	84	57

Pos.	Depth Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Skill
LOLB	David Thornton	86	72	79	75
LOLB	Nick Rogers	67	65	76	64
MLB	Rob Morris	85	78	76	78
MLB	Gary Brackett	73	74	73	73
RE	Dwight Freeney	98	76	87	80
RE	Robert Mathis	87	67	85	70
ROLB	Cato June	84	63	82	76
ROLB	Gilbert Gardner	70	65	77	60
ROLB	Kendyll Pope	68	62	81	50
SS	Bob Sanders	85	63	93	72
SS	Brandon Lynch	59	54	83	55
Special Teams					
K	Adam Vinatieri	97	40	59	97
P	Hunter Smith	90	44	59	78

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Baltimore, MD | **Starting Year:** 1947 | **League:** AFC

Franchise Beginnings

The original Colts team began play in 1947 as a member of the All-America Football Conference and joined the NFL in 1950 after the AAFC merged into the older league. After fans in Baltimore, Maryland, protested, the NFL formed this newer Colts team. While in Baltimore, the club won four NFL Championships, including one Super Bowl. In 1953, a Baltimore-based group led by Carroll Rosenbloom won the rights to a new Baltimore franchise. Rosenbloom was awarded the remains of the Dallas Texans

Notable Moments

• Super Bowl V

The Colts recovered from its Super Bowl III loss to the Jets to beat the Dallas Cowboys 16-13 on January 17, 1971, at the Orange Bowl in Miami, Fla. A last-minute 32-yard field goal by rookie kicker Jim O'Brien gave them their margin of victory.

• Manning Breaks Passing TD Record

In a 34-31 overtime win over the San Diego Chargers on December 26, 2004, Colts quarterback Peyton Manning set a NFL single-season record for touchdown passes with 49. Wide receiver Brandon Stokley made the record-breaking catch with just 56 seconds left in regulation.

Notable Figures



Herbert Weitman/WireImage.com

Johnny Unitas ('56-'72)

After joining the Colts in 1956, Unitas became a legendary quarterback who led the team to NFL titles in 1958 and 1959. Known as "Mr. Clutch" thanks to his ability to make big plays, Unitas passed for 40,239 yards and 290 touchdowns in his career. He was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1979.

Raymond Berry ('55-'67)

From 1955-1967, Berry was the prime wide receiver for the Colts. Despite his average speed, he was a precise route runner and developed countless moves to shake defenders. He led the league in receptions three times, and retired with 631 receptions and 68 touchdowns. Berry joined the Hall of Fame in 1973.

Gino Marchetti ('53-'64, '66)

Arguably one of the greatest defensive ends of all time, Marchetti played with the Colts for 13 seasons. He was an incredibly gifted pass rusher who forced offensive lines to double- or even triple-team him. Marchetti was selected for 11 Pro Bowls and was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1972.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• The Baltimore Colts have retired seven uniform numbers: **#19** (Johnny Unitas), **#22** (Buddy Young), **#24** (Lenny Moore), **#70** (Art Donovan), **#77** (Jim Parker), **#82** (Raymond Berry), and **#89** (Gino Marchetti).

• Defensive tackle **Art Donovan** was the first Colts player inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1968.

• In 2004, the Colts became the first team in NFL history to have **three receivers catch at least 10 touchdowns in a season** and just the fourth team ever to have three 1,000-yard-plus receivers.

• Hall of Fame quarterback Johnny Unitas holds the record for **most consecutive games** (47) with **at least one touchdown pass**.

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:
Johnny Unitas ('56-'72) **2,796**

• Passing Yards:
Johnny Unitas ('56-'72) **39,768**

• Passing Touchdowns:
Johnny Unitas ('56-'72) **287**

• Receptions:
Marvin Harrison ('96-'05) **845**

• Receiving Yards:
Marvin Harrison ('96-'06) **927**

• Receiving Touchdowns:
Marvin Harrison ('96-'06) **110**

• Rushing Yards:
Edgerrin James ('99-'05) **9,226**

• Rushing Touchdowns:
Edgerrin James ('99-'05) **64**

• Career Points Leader:
Mike Vanderjagt ('98-'05) **995**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:
Duane Bickett ('85-'93) **50**

• Interceptions:
Bobby Boyd ('60-'68) **57**

Team Trivia

Answers

1 Robert Irsay. The Colts moved overnight on March 28th, 1984.

2 The Colts played in the All America Football Conference from 1946 to 1949.

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DALLAS COWBOYS

Division: NFC East | **Stadium:** Texas Stadium | **Type:** Partial Dome | **Capacity:** 65,675 | **Surface:** Turf



2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
9	7	0	325	308	5-3	4-4	2-2	7-5	3-3

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	88
Offense	86
Defense	85

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Team Rankings

Scoring	15th
Passing Offense	15th
Rushing Offense	13th
Passing Defense	11th
Rushing Defense	15th
Turnovers	21st

TEAM STRATEGY

Playing As: Dallas Cowboys

1. When on offense, use T.O. early as a decoy and attack the seams with tight end Jason Witten.
2. Once this is established go deep to T.O. or Terry Glen.
3. On defense use Ware to come off the edge and wreck havoc in the backfield.

Playing Against: Dallas Cowboys

1. Drew Bledsoe is not mobile at all, so when trying to attack the Cowboys offense it is a priority to get to Bledsoe up the middle and from the outside. .
2. The Cowboys defense may have pretty good speed from the edges but the plan of attack should be to the middle of the d-line.
3. If you have a big receiver, use him to body up the right cornerback Anthony Henry.

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• The biggest news of the off-season was centered on T.O. He brings his amazing talent to the Cowboys and has already boosted the entire offense. The Cowboys 2006 attack will be very hard to stop with a great receiver and a great tight end in Jason Witten. Look for the Cowboys to be one of the leading offenses in the NFL this season.

Weaknesses

• Everything starts with T.O. but since this is a game, his attitude won't have an effect on gameplay for the Cowboys. The Boys have to be concerned with the loss of pro bowl Offensive Guard Larry Allen. He was a part of the fabric of the team and we will have to see how the loss of this player will affect the offense. You can't get the ball to T.O. if Bledsoe doesn't have the time.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• Marcus Spears is the very talented DE who has to take over this year and be dominating the whole season. The defense also is very strong in the secondary led by Safety Roy Williams. Corners Terrance Newman and Anthony Henry are very solid and can match up to any receiver in the league.

Weaknesses

• The Cowboys have yet to solidify the free safety position, and this year's free agency has brought them more players in Marcus Coleman and Pat Watkins, a drafted rookie. No one is sure if these players are an upgrade but if they cannot compete for the starting job, then Keith Davis at least brings another year of experience to the table.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Akin Ayodele	Jacksonville	LB	6'2"	251
FA	NA	Terrell Owens	Eagles	WR	6'3"	226
FA	NA	M. Vanderjagt	Colts	K	6'5"	211
Rookie	1	Bobby Carpenter	Ohio State	LB	6'3"	255
Rookie	2	Anthony Fasano	Notre Dame	TE	6-4"	258

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Terrell Owens • Wide Receiver (WR) #81

Showcase Plays for Ownes

Split Backs-Pro TE



Sail F Flat

• The Split Backs-Pro TE Sail F Flat gives the Cowboys a chance to get T.O. on a one-to-one matchup versus a cornerback. Anytime this happens in a game, the best option will be to throw to T.O. At the snap, the quarterback sees man-to-man and T.O. single-covered by a cornerback. The ball is thrown and T.O. catches it for big yards.

I-Form



Slants

• Terrell Owens brings a unique ability to a team's offense all over the field and especially in the red zone area. This is seen when running the I-Form-Slants and taking advantage of his great hands, speed, and size. Once the ball is hiked and T.O. breaks inside, deliver the ball for an easy completion.



Key Attributes

Awareness	92
Acceleration	96
Catching	94
Speed	93

T.O. has always been a star player, but now he is playing for the team with the star on the helmet. After a very controversial season in '05, T.O. comes into '06 with something to prove. Even his last year in Philly showed that he still has a lot left in the tank as he put a move on Champ Bailey and took the play to the house. Look for an all out air attack now that T.O. is in Dallas.

Roy Williams • Safety (SS) #31

Showcase Plays for Williams

Nickel-Normal



Engage Eight

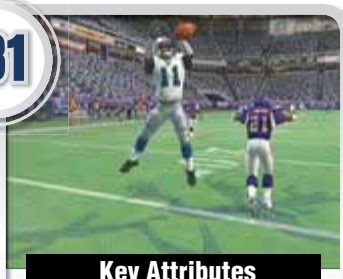
• The engage eight is a play the Cowboys can use to showcase the blitz potential of their standout safety, Roy Williams. Roy will ease up to the line, and once the ball is snapped, he comes off the edge or up the gut with fury.

3-4-Normal



Cover 1

• The 3-4-Normal Cover 1 shows just how well Roy Williams plays zone coverage. This deep middle zone assignment gives Williams the opportunity to deliver a bone-shattering blow to any pass threat downfield or the chance to bat the ball down, if not intercept it.



Key Attributes

Strength	75
Awareness	85
Tackle	90
Speed	65

Big hitting safeties are not common any more in the NFL, but Roy Williams is a throwback type of player and already had an NFL rule created against the way he used to tackle. Roy also is a ball hawk and added three interceptions, 2.5 sacks, and three forced fumbles to his totals last season.

Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

- **Position:** HB
- **Substitution:** Marion Barber
- **When:** Third down passing situations.
- **Advantage:** Marion Barber is not a back we look for in the passing game but we want him on the field in pass situations because he is our best blocking back.

- **Position:** C
- **Substitution:** Andre Gurode
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** Gurode is the better player and higher rate blocker. We need to stay solid at the center position and keep the best player in at all times.

- **Position:** DT 2
- **Substitution:** Montavious Stanley
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** We aren't really in a good position when it comes to our DTs but adding Montavious to the starting lineup should help a little. He is a little stronger and faster then the DT we already have in the number-two position.

Fantasy Outlook

- **Star:** Terrell Owens
- **Draft:** 2nd
- **2006 Outlook:** As long as TO doesn't mind not catching as many balls as he is used to, he will be good fit. Expect him to catch 80 passes and get in the end zone 10 times.

- **Star:** Julius Jones
- **Draft:** 3rd
- **2006 Outlook:** Jones biggest fantasy question going into the 2006 season is can he stay healthy for a full season. If he does, the sky is the limit for this talented but fragile runner.

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Coaching Profile

Bill Parcells

- **Head Coaching Year:** 19th
- **Experience:** He has accumulated a 159-113-1 record.

His 165 career victories make him the second winningest active coach in the NFL. Parcells has guided his teams to 11 winning seasons, nine playoff berths, and posted an 11-7 postseason record. Parcells-led teams have finished in either first or second place in their division 10 times.

Detailed Package Info

Dallas Cowboys

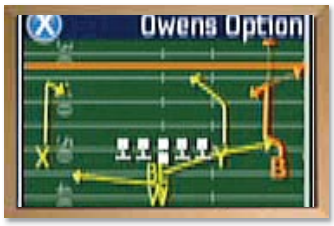
- **Formation:** Singleback-Trey Open
- **Package:** Normal
- **Play:** Inside Shake
- **Advantage:** Gets Terrell Owens in as the slot receiver and also puts Julius Jones as the split end receiver.

- **Formation:** Singleback-4WR
- **Package:** Strong Slots
- **Play:** Slots Attack
- **Advantage:** Puts both T.O. and Terry Glen in at the slot positions and lets them work against weaker or overmatched defenders.

- **Formation:** Nickel-3-3-5
- **Package:** OLB FLip
- **Play:** Rambo Dogs
- **Advantage:** Lets us move DeMarcus Ware around on the defense and keeps the offense guessing where he is coming from.

Key Offensive Plays

A I Form-Normal
1st & 2nd down

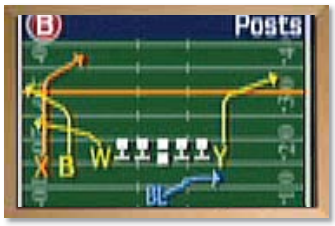


• Owens Option

We use the I Form-Normal Owens Option to do this. Assigning T.O. to an option route makes him that much harder to defend. Owens will either beat the defense deep, or with the hook as seen here.



B Singleback-Big Twin WR
1st, 2nd, 3rd down

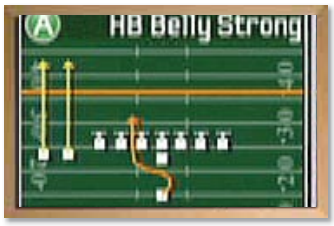


• Posts

Jason Witten needs to be a key part in the offensive plan. If he can get going, the defense can't focus on T.O. and the offense will be more efficient. This play assigns Witten to a corner route where he can win his matchup versus a corner or safety one-on-one.



C Singleback-Big Twin WR
1st & 3rd down



• HB Belly Strong

We can't play ball for Coach Parcells if we don't run the ball. Use this play after running a pass play from the same set and watch how Jones can destroy the defense. Jones will get the ball and follow the blocks from the linemen to get upfield fast.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Strong-I Normal	TE Option, Comet Pass, HB Screen, PA Slide	**Split Backs-Pro**	HB Off Tackle, FB Belly, Quick Toss, HB Sweep
Singleback-Twin TE	PA TE Attack, Triple Outs, TE Slot Out, WR Screen	**Full House-Normal Wide**	HB Smash, HB Slam, HB Sweep, Counter Lead

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Andre Gurode	80	90	53	67
C	Al Johnson	76	87	54	65
FB	Lousaka Polite	81	71	64	63
HB	Julius Jones	87	70	91	79
HB	Marion Barber	81	69	87	69
HB	Tyson Thompson	70	55	94	48
LG	Kyle Kosier	85	86	57	82
LG	Shannon Snell	69	84	40	64
LT	Flozell Adams	89	97	44	90
LT	Marc Colombo	72	88	54	64
QB	Drew Bledsoe	87	68	45	89
QB	Tony Romo	75	59	57	70
QB	Drew Henson	72	65	60	64
RG	Marco Rivera	95	94	49	95
RG	Stephen Peterman	68	86	50	52
RG	Cory Procter	63	84	50	55
RT	Jason Fabini	87	92	47	91
RT	Rob Petitti	76	90	52	70
TE	Jason Witten	92	74	77	80
TE	Anthony Fasano	78	73	72	56
TE	Ryan Hannam	64	60	69	62
WR	Terrell Owens	97	76	93	92
WR	Terry Glenn	87	46	93	87
WR	Patrick Crayton	76	47	91	55
WR	Skyler Green	76	46	93	54
WR	Terrance Copper	66	45	88	46

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Key Defensive Plays

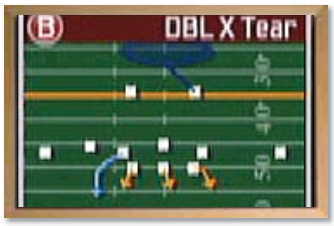
A Nickel-3-3-5
base pass defense



• Man QB Spy
This formation is great against the run and pass. When the play starts, DeMarcus Ware blitzes the edge with Ellis. The offense can't hold both of them, and Ellis gets in for the sack on the quarterback.



B Nickel-3-3-5
base pass defense



• DBL X Tear
We use this when facing any pass or run versus spread formations where the offense keeps a back in to add protection. This allows us to have one LB playing spy. With protection behind us, our d-line gets pressure on the QB and registers a sack.



C Nickel-3-3-5
3rd & long



• CB Fox Blitz 3
This blitz gives us pressure from both side of the defense but uses the nickel back and our left corner back to bring heat. The play develops so fast that when our nickel back reaches the QB, he hits him before he can secure the ball and causes a fumble.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
3-4 Normal	Renegade, Swap Blitz 3, OLB Dogs Fire	**3-4 Solid**	2 Man Under, Cover 2 Sink, Trio Sky Zone
Nickel-Strong	Cowboy Fire 3, Under Smoke, Man Strg Crash	**Quarter-3 Deep**	Double Z LB Spy, Under Man Zone, Man Up 3 Deep

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Anthony Henry	89	65	88	85
CB	Terence Newman	87	48	96	76
CB	Aaron Glenn	85	48	90	90
CB	Jacques Reeves	72	52	88	64
CB	Nathan Jones	67	48	90	56
DT	Jason Ferguson	85	90	55	80
DT	Montavious Stanley	69	84	62	52
DT	Thomas Johnson	67	82	60	52
FS	Marcus Coleman	84	54	86	85
FS	Keith Davis	76	62	82	70
FS	Willie Pile	65	49	84	60
LE	Marcus Spears	83	82	69	66
LE	Kenyon Coleman	73	76	72	59
LOLB	Bobby Carpenter	82	70	86	60
LOLB	Al Singleton	82	73	76	82

Pos.	Depth	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Skill
LOLB		Rocky Boiman	78	73	74	78
MLB		Akin Ayodele	86	74	82	82
MLB		Bradie James	83	78	79	76
MLB		Ryan Fowler	63	72	75	60
MLB		Scott Shanle	61	62	71	60
RE		Greg Ellis	87	78	74	85
RE		Chris Canty	79	80	70	65
RE		Jason Hatcher	76	84	73	40
ROLB		Demarcus Ware	86	76	84	70
ROLB		Kevin Burnett	76	75	85	54
SS		Roy Williams	94	75	85	85

Special Teams

K		Mike Vanderjagt	94	40	52	82
P		Mat McBriar	72	40	57	56

Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

Our coaches are among the most highly paid in the industry. It's time to end our two-year absence from the playoffs. We've got plenty of room under the cap to make an important hire. Merchandise prices are right where they should be.

Team Salary: 76.0M
Cap Room: 29.5M
Key Rival:
• Washington Redskins
NFL Icons: Terrell Owens
Philosophy:
• Offense: Establish Run
• Defense: Shut Down Runs
Prestige: Medium
Team Needs:
• Defensive Line
• Linebacker
Highest Paid Players:
• Flozell Adams
• Terence Newman
Up and Coming Players:
• Bobby Carpenter
• Marion Barber

Team Trivia

Dallas Cowboys Facts

Answers are on the following page.

1 The Cowboys played in 10 NFC Championship games from the 1970 season to the 1982 season. How many Super Bowls did they win in that time frame?

2 In one of the largest trade of the 20th century, the Cowboys traded Herschel Walker to what team?

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Dallas, TX | **Starting Year:** 1960 | **League:** NFC

Franchise Beginnings

On January 28, 1960, the city of Dallas was granted an NFL franchise, and Clint Murchison Jr. and Bedford Wynne created the Cowboys. They hired Tex Schramm to be the general manager and Tom Landry to be the head coach. The Cowboys' first season was a disaster, finishing with a 0-11-1 record. The next year, the Cowboys selected Bob Lilly in their first NFL Draft, and in 1961, the Cowboys got their first win, a 27-24 victory over the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Notable Moments

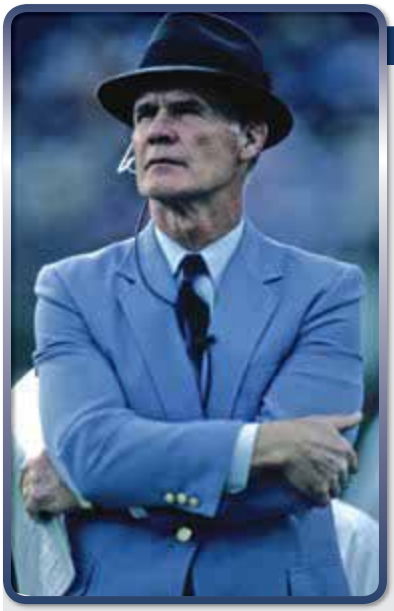
• Super Bowl IV

On January 16, 1972, the Cowboys beat the Miami Dolphins, 24-3, to win their first Super Bowl in New Orleans. It was the tenth victory in a row for Dallas; Roger Staubach passed for 119 yards, two touchdowns, and was named the game's MVP.

• Three Super Bowl Titles in Four Years

Dallas became the first team in NFL history to win three Super Bowls in a four year period (Super Bowl XXVII, Super Bowl XXVIII, and Super Bowl XXX). This enabled Dallas to earn its fifth Super Bowl title, joining the San Francisco 49ers as the only NFL franchises to win five Super Bowls.

Notable Figures



Al Messerschmidt/WireImage.com

Tom Landry ('60-'88)

Tom Landry was the first coach for the Dallas Cowboys, and stayed twenty nine years. He had twenty consecutive winning seasons (1966-1985), five NFC titles, and two Super Bowl wins. Landry is ranked third on the all-time wins list with 270 and was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1990.

Roger Staubach ('69-'79)

Nicknamed "Captain Comeback" and "Roger the Dodger" for his ability to bring his team from behind (23 fourth quarter come-from-behind wins), Staubach was known for making the big play. His four NFC titles, two Super Bowl wins, Super Bowl VI MVP, and six Pro Bowls helped him get elected to the Hall of Fame in 1985.

Emmit Smith ('90-'02)

In 2002, Emmitt Smith passed Walter Payton to become the NFL's all-time leading rusher. He also holds the all-time record for rushing touchdowns (164), had eleven straight 1,000-yard seasons, four rushing titles, eight-time Pro Bowler, Super Bowl XXVIII MVP, and three Super Bowl championships(XXVII, XXVIII, XXX).

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• The Dallas Cowboys have been to **eight Super Bowls**, and have won five of them. (Super Bowl V, VI, X, XII, XIII, XXVII, XVIII, XXX)

• The term "**America's Team**" came from the 1979 Dallas Cowboys NFL highlight film. Its title, "America's Team," ended up being associated with the club itself due to the large amount of fans who live outside Dallas.

• The **Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders** debuted in September of 1972. The mixture of professional dancing and beauty changed the sidelines forever. They became "America's Sweethearts" and showed up on TV shows, commercials, and had a made-for-TV movie!

• Valued at about $1.1 billion, they are one of the wealthiest teams in the NFL generating nearly $250 million in revenue per year.

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:
Troy Aikman ('89-'00) **2,898**

• Passing Yards:
Troy Aikman ('89-'00) **32,942**

• Passing Touchdowns:
Troy Aikman ('89-'00) **165**

• Receptions:
Michael Irvin ('88-'99) **750**

• Receiving Yards:
Michael Irvin ('88-'99) **11,904**

• Receiving Touchdowns:
Bob Hayes ('65-'74) **71**

• Rushing Yards:
Emmitt Smith ('90-'02) **17,162**

• Rushing Touchdowns:
Emmitt Smith ('90-'02) **153**

• Career Points Leader:
Emmitt Smith ('90-'02) **986**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:
Harvey Martin ('73-'84) **114**

• Interceptions:
Mel Renfro ('64-'77) **52**

Team Trivia

Answers

1 Two: the Cowboys won Super Bowls VI and XII.

2 On October 13,1989, the Cowboys traded running back Herschel Walker to the Vikings for four veteran players and 13 future draft picks.

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MIAMI DOLPHINS

Division: AFC East | **Stadium:** Dolphins Stadium | **Type:** Open | **Capacity:** 75,000 | **Surface:** Grass

2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
9	7	0	318	317	5-3	4-4	7-5	2-2	3-3

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	88
Offense	88
Defense	85

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Team Rankings

Scoring	16th
Passing Offense	16th
Rushing Offense	12th
Passing Defense	20th
Rushing Defense	17th
Turnovers	10th

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• The Dolphins' offense could come back to life and have a great season with the addition of former all-pro quarterback Daunte Culpepper. They have also added QB Joey Harrington to assume the starting role if Culpepper can't go at the beginning of the season. WR Chris Chambers will no doubt enjoy Culpepper's big arm and playmaking ability.

Weaknesses

• Ricky Williams suspended is for the whole season. This mishap will put Ronnie Brown in the bull's-eye of every defense and he won't have the comfort of being able to rely on Ricky if he hits a middle of the season slump. Another issue to be concerned about is Daunte Culpepper's health. Joey Harrington is serviceable but he is not the person they brought in to run the offense.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• The Dolphins now run a multiple front set between the 3-4 and 4-3. This became a big reason for the team's turn around on the defensive side. The team was busy in the off-season grabbing up quality cornerbacks Will Allen (NYG) and André Goodman (DET). Their skills added to Zach Thomas and Jason Taylor makes this a solid unit for another year.

Weaknesses

• The Dolphins were not strong in the secondary last year and that is why the entire season starting unit from a year ago is gone. Will the new additions be better? We don't know yet. We do know that if age catches up to this side of the ball especially up front on the line, then nothing that they plan on doing may work.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Daunte Culpepper	Vikings	QB	6'4"	260
FA	NA	Will Allen	Giants	CB	5'10"	196
FA	NA	Mike Pearson	Jaguars	T	6'7"	297
Rookie	1	Jason Allen	Tennessee	S	6'1"	208
Rookie	3	Derek Hagan	Arizona State	WR	6'2"	209



Playing As: Miami Dolphins

1. It's good to be back in Miami now that the team has a Pro-Bowl quarterback. When using the Dolphins' offense, be sure to use Culpepper just like Vick and McNabb.
2. Make the defense fear the threat of the running QB and then open the entire pass and run game up off of this.
3. On defense let Jason Taylor get loose and blitz him constantly off the edge. His forte is speed, so use it to get pressure and force opponents into the zone or into Zach Thomas's area.

Playing Against: Miami Dolphins

1. Now that Culpepper is the team's quarterback, we have to force him to remain in the pocket
2. When facing their defense, we really want to avoid dropping back to deep because of the speed of Taylor.
3. It is also important not to give Zach Thomas any chance of making a game-changing play. He is good at picking off short lazy passes over the middle.

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Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

- **Position:** FB
- **Substitution:** Fred Beasley
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** This is a toss up because the two backs offer different things, but in a traditional FB role, where blocking is the main purpose, we like Beasley over Morris.

- **Position:** C
- **Substitution:** Wade Smith
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** Wade Smith adds size and better run and pass blocking to our line up. With Culpepper now at QB, we need to keep him protected as best we can.

- **Position:** MLB 2
- **Substitution:** Keith Newman
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** Newman is a little to slow to start on the outside for us even though he is rated higher then the LB we are starting. He is a better fit in the MLB 2 position where we can better use his skills.

Fantasy Outlook

- **Star:** Ronnie Brown
- **Draft:** 2nd
- **2006 Outlook:** Brown could have a huge season. If he doesn't pick up 1,600 yards on the ground and 12-15 TDs, we will be very surprised.

- **Star:** Chris Chambers
- **Draft:** 5th
- **2006 Outlook:** Chambers came on strong late last season as the Dolphins won a string of games. Expect his numbers to be even better in 2006

Star Players

Daunte Culpepper • Quarterback (QB)

Showcase Plays for Culpepper

I Form-Normal



PA Waggle

- Daunte Culpepper is great to use in the play action waggle game. This is a way for us to get Culpepper in a position to affect the way the defense plays. Once the play action fake is done, Culpepper is out on the edge of the defense and is in a position to run or pass. He picks pass and hits the receiver coming across the field.

Strong I-Normal



TE Delay

- We can use Culpepper to present the threat of the run and stretch the defense. The TE Delay lets us attack the defense by flooding the right side of the field. At the start of the play, Culpepper starts off to the right as all the routes are designed this way. We turn him to the backside and hit the TE as he is running a delay route to the left.



Key Attributes

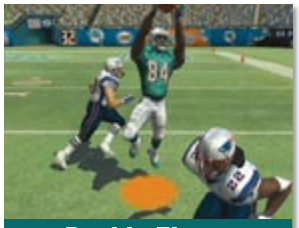
Awareness	79
Throw Power	98
Throw Accuracy	84
Speed	77

Last year was a nightmare for Daunte Culpepper. He lost his favorite target in Randy Moss and later he blew his knee out and ended his season. Culpepper joins the Dolphins ready to make a clean start and show the same game from two seasons ago.

Chris Chambers • Wider Receiver (WR) #84

Showcase Plays for Chambers

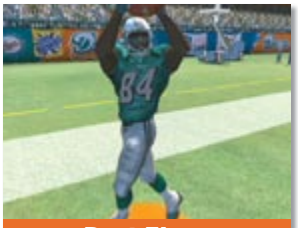
Strong I-Normal



Double Flares

- Chris Chambers is a prototypical NFL. He also is a great route runner with solid hands. This play lets Chambers show off as he runs a C route. During the play Chambers gives the corner three different moves and breaks free in between the zones for an easy catch.

I Form-Normal



Post Flags

- When a team has a receiver like Chambers who runs great routes and has the ability to overpower a DB, running double moves routes is a necessity. The I Form-Normal Post Flags lets Chambers put the double move on the corner for big results. The play shows Chambers making the catch after beating the cornerback with a double move.



Key Attributes

Awareness	85
Acceleration	94
Catching	88
Speed	95

Chris Chambers is a problem for any defender lined up against him. He has the physical ability of a T.O. but is younger and has yet to play with a Pro Bowl quarterback. He is great at making the big catch and running over a defender to get to the end zone, or making the basic catch for the first down.

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Key Offensive Plays

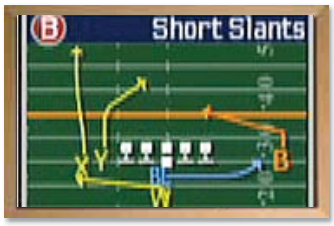
A Strong I-Normal
1st & 2nd down



• HB Off Tackle
We establish the run early with this play and get Brown involved. Once he gets the handoff, he follows the FB to the RT/TE hole. If it's open he runs there or bounces it out to get around the edge.



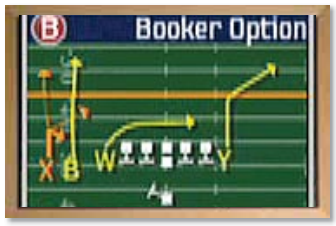
B I Form-Twin TE
2nd down



• Short Slants
The short slants is a play that we can go deep with to our backup tight end. Instead we hit Brown in the flat after the TE has created some space with his streak route. Brown gets the ball in the flat and runs through a defender on his way to a first down.



C Singleback-Big Twin WR
2nd & 3rd down



• Booker Option
We have mentioned how important Chris Chambers is to the Dolphins' offense but Randy McMichael is a very key part also. This play lets him use his size to go up over the defenders on the deep corner.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
I Form-Normal	PA Waggle, WR Option, Slants, Deep Cross	**Singleback-Twin TE WR**	Off Tackle, Counter Weak, HB Toss Strong, HB Draw
Shotgun-Slot Strong	SE Quick Hit, Read, FL Drag, Quick Hits	**Weak-Normal**	HB Gut, HB Dive, Counter Trap, Off Tackle Wk

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Wade Smith	79	88	55	70
C	Seth McKinney	76	84	57	70
FB	Fred Beasley	97	72	72	90
FB	Sammy Morris	83	69	85	65
HB	Ronnie Brown	89	75	93	74
HB	Travis Minor	75	58	88	74
HB	Kay-Jay Harris	68	68	89	52
LG	Jeno James	86	91	54	80
LG	C.J.Brooks	69	84	51	60
LT	L.J. Shelton	84	95	44	86
LT	Mike Pearson	82	84	59	83
QB	Daunte Culpepper	92	73	77	79
QB	Joey Harrington	76	55	60	72
QB	Cleo Lemon	65	54	64	58
RG	Rex Hadnot	82	90	57	71
RG	Joe Berger	61	83	48	55
RT	Vernon Carey	82	92	52	75
RT	Damion McIntosh	79	90	49	81
TE	Randy McMichael	92	73	83	75
TE	Justin Peelle	73	69	73	67
TE	Keith Heinrich	67	69	66	61
WR	Chris Chambers	91	62	95	85
WR	Marty Booker	84	64	87	87
WR	Derek Hagan	78	60	88	64
WR	Cliff Russell	67	44	92	50
WR	Wes Welker	66	44	87	65

Coaching Profile

Nick Saban

- **Head Coaching Year:** 2nd
- **Experience:** 9-7 last year with the Dolphins. 48-15 in five years at LSU, taking his team to a bowl game every season.

Saban was named the sixth head coach in Miami history. He won an SEC title in 2001, and he led the Tigers to last season's BCS national championship. He was touted as NFL material when he was at Michigan State in the late 1990s.

Detailed Package Info

Miami Dolphins

- **Formation:** I Form-Normal
- **Package:** Jumbo Backfield
- **Play:** HB Blast
- **Advantage**: Our Starting FB has pretty good speed to play the HB position and our backup FB Fred Beasley is our best run-blocking back. This is how we get him on the field.

- **Formation:** Shotgun-2RB 3WR
- **Package**: Dual HB
- **Play:** RB Circles
- **Advantage**: We get faster by adding another HB in the backfield over a FB. Perfect substitution for this play.

- **Formation:** I Form-WR
- **Package:** TE Slot
- **Play:** Mid Attack
- **Advantage:** Randy McMichael shows just how useful he is when we flex him out to the Slot position. We use this to let him manhandle little DBs.

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Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

Fans are generally happy with our merchandise prices. Our coaches are among the most highly paid in the industry. Fans are happy with the affordable food prices. Our parking prices are pretty much on par for the league.

Team Salary: 83.6M
Cap Room: 21.8M
Key Rival: Buffalo Bills
NFL Icons: Jason Taylor
Philosophy:
- Offense: Vertical Passing
- Defense: Disrupt Passing

Prestige: Low
Team Needs:
- Linebacker
- Offensive Line

Highest Paid Players:
- Jason Taylor
- Chris Chambers

Up and Coming Players:
- Channing Crowder
- Jason Allen

Team Trivia

Miami Dolphins Facts

Answers are on the following page.

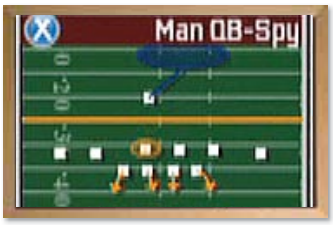
1 Who did the Dolphins play in their first trip to the Super Bowl?

2 Who is the quarterback who threw for the first 400-yard passing game?

Key Defensive Plays

A 4-6-Normal

run defense



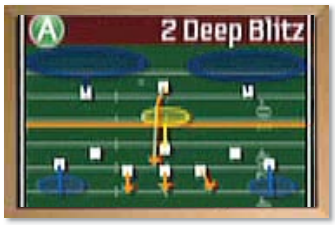
• Man-QB Spy

The 4-6 lets Zach read where the run is going and then fill the hole and shut the door on the back. He does exactly that here. The running back gets the ball, sees a hole, and Zach comes in to close the hole for a gain of just one yard.



B Quarter-3 Deep

red zone vs spread



• 2 Deep Blitz

We rely on the 2 Deep Blitz as our red zone pass defense because it has flat, middle, and deep half protection. The offense can't find an open option so it takes a shot at a receiver running a post. We tip the ball and Zach Thomas comes away with an interception.



C Quarter-Normal

3rd & long



• Double X LB Spy

The Double X gives Taylor an outside rush angle so that he can get to the QB in a hurry. At the snap Taylor gets around the corner and gives the LT a nudge. That's all he needs to get free to take the QB down for a sack.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
4-3 Under	Sam Blitz, Tango, Mid Gut Rush, Engage Eight	**46-Normal**	Safe, Double X, 2 Man Under, Cover 3
3-4-Solid	Wide Blitz, Gap Press, Engage Eight, Weak Blitz	**Quarter-Normal**	2 Man Under Spy, Man Quarters, Cover 1

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Will Allen	83	48	98	79
CB	Renaldo Hill	79	55	87	79
CB	Travis Daniels	79	64	87	72
CB	Will Poole	78	64	87	64
CB	Andre Goodman	74	45	93	67
DT	Vonnie Holliday	87	88	63	84
DT	Keith Traylor	85	93	47	87
DT	Jeff Zgonina	83	84	55	88
DT	Manuel Wright	65	77	61	49
FS	Deke Cooper	81	65	87	74
FS	Jason Allen	80	66	92	58
FS	Yeremiah Bell	77	58	85	66
LE	Kevin Carter	89	88	67	87
LE	Matt Roth	77	72	72	56
LOLB	Keith Newman	80	70	73	83

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
LOLB	Donnie Spragan	78	73	75	74
LOLB	Sedrick Hodge	76	66	83	68
LOLB	Eddie Moore	75	70	79	65
MLB	Zach Thomas	96	78	75	98
MLB	Mike Labinjo	62	75	72	59
RE	Jason Taylor	96	74	82	91
RE	David Bowens	77	69	74	72
ROLB	Channing Crowder	83	76	79	68
ROLB	Derrick Pope	68	70	77	50
SS	Travares Tillman	81	64	85	75
SS	Norman LeJeune61	49	85	50	

Special Teams

K	Olindo Mare	88	33	54	85
P	Donnie Jones	79	45	64	62

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Miami, FL | **Starting Year:** 1966 | **League:** AFC

Franchise Beginnings

The Dolphins joined the American Football League in 1966 as its ninth team. In six years, the team went from a lowly franchise to the NFL's elite—highlighted by a 1972 campaign in which the team posted the NFL's only perfect season (a 17-0 record) capped by a Super Bowl VII victory. Since the AFL-NFL merger in 1970, the Dolphins have compiled the best winning percentage of any team in the league. Since 1970, the team has won five AFC titles, the last in 1984.

Notable Moments

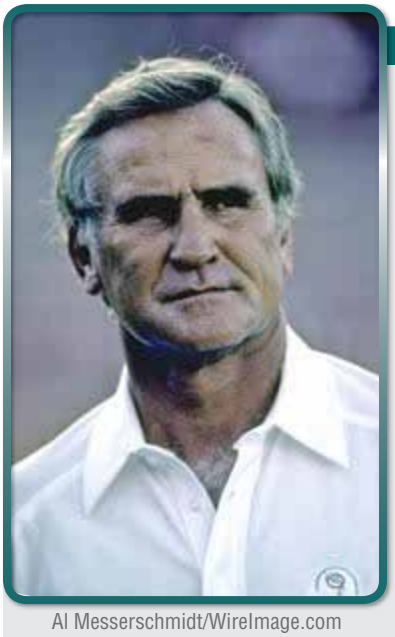
• A Perfect Ending: Super Bowl VII

On January 14, 1973, the Dolphins capped a perfect 17-0 season with a 14-7 win over the Washington Redskins. The final score does not reflect how Miami dominated virtually the entire game—the Redskins' lone touchdown occurred on a botched Dolphins field goal.

• Super Bowl XIX

The Dolphins' last Super Bowl appearance occurred on January 20, 1985, at Stanford Stadium in California. Unfortunately, the game ended with a 16-38 loss at the hands of the San Francisco 49ers and eventual game MVP quarterback Joe Montana.

Notable Figures



Al Messerschmidt/WireImage.com

Don Shula ('70-'95)

As the legendary head coach of the Miami Dolphins from 1970 to 1995, Shula became the coach with the most wins in NFL history with an overall record of 347-173-6. In his 26 years in Miami, Shula recorded only two losing seasons. In 1997, he was inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Larry Csonka ('68-'74, '79)

The Dolphins' top draft pick in 1968 played a key role in establishing the Dolphins' dominance in the early 1970s. At 6'3" and 235 pounds, his bruising, line-smashing running style helped propel Miami to three Super Bowl seasons in 1971, 1972, and 1973. He was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1987.

Dan Marino ('83-'99)

The latest Dolphins star to be inducted in the Hall of Fame (as a member of the class of 2005) is the most prolific passer in NFL history. In 17 years, Marino recorded 4,967 completions, 61,361 passing yards, and 420 touchdowns. He became the first player ever to pass for 5,000 yards in a season.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• During Dan Marino's 17-year career with the Dolphins, he brought the team back from a fourth quarter deficit **37 times** (including three playoff games), with 21 fourth quarter triumphs at home and 16 on the road. Only Denver Broncos quarterback **John Elway** has recorded more come-from-behind victories.

• Contest names for the team included the **Mariners**, **Marauders**, **Mustangs**, **Missiles**, **Moons**, **Sharks**, and **Suns**.

• The Dolphins retired three uniform numbers: **#12** (Bob Griese), **#13** (Dan Marino), and **#39** (Larry Csonka).

• In 1999 the Dolphins suffered the worst playoff loss in NFL history against the Jacksonville Jaguars, 62-7. After the season Marino retired.

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:
Dan Marino ('83-'99) **4,967**

• Passing Yards:
Dan Marino ('83-'99) **61,361**

• Passing Touchdowns:
Dan Marino ('83-'99) **420**

• Receptions:
Mark Clayton ('83-'92) **550**

• Receiving Yards:
Mark Duper ('82-'92) **8,869**

• Receiving Touchdowns:
Mark Clayton ('83-'92) **81**

• Rushing Yards:
Larry Csonka ('68-'74,'79) **6,737**

• Rushing Touchdowns:
Larry Csonka ('68-'74,'79) **53**

• Career Points Leader:
Garo Yepremian ('70-'78) **830**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:
Jason Taylor ('97-'03) **71**

• Interceptions:
Jake Scott ('70-'75) **35**

Team Trivia

Answers

1 Dallas Cowboys, Super Bowl VI.

2 David Woodley passed for 408 yards against the Dallas Cowboys on October 25, 1981.

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PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

Division: NFC East | **Stadium:** Lincoln Financial Field | **Type:** Open | **Capacity:** 68,532 | **Surface:** Grass



2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
6	10	0	310	388	4-4	2-6	3-1	3-9	0-6

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	89
Offense	88
Defense	90

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Team Rankings

Scoring	17th
Passing Offense	8th
Rushing Offense	28th
Passing Defense	21st
Rushing Defense	21st
Turnovers	19th

TEAM STRATEGY

Playing As: Philadelphia Eagles

1. Use Donovan McNabb to stretch the field and zones by rolling him out on pass plays.
2. Brian Westbrook is a playmaker out of the backfield and has breakaway ability in both the run and pass game.
3. On defense use the speed and depth at DE to bring constant heat on your opponent when passing.

Playing Against: Philadelphia Eagles

1. To defend the Eagles offense you cannot let Donovan McNabb scramble to move the pocket.
2. Use bump and run versus the receivers because none of them are good at beating the jam.
3. Against the Eagles defense, run up the middle early and often.

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• McNabb is returning from a dreadful season and he is ready to get things started and get it behind him. The offense gets a boost by locking up Jon Runyan and making sure the O-line is set. Brian Westbrook should benefit with the loss of T.O. because the offense will now have to return to some type of balance.

Weaknesses

• Releasing T.O. takes 21 touchdowns in 22 games out of the lineup and those numbers need to be replaced somehow. There is also a concern that the Eagles did not add a real top-notch receiver to the group. Eyebrows are also raised whenever HB Correll Buckhalter's name is mentioned. The Birds need a real backup to Brian Westbrook.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• The off-season brought the acquisition of defensive end Darren Howard from the Saints in hopes of getting a respectable pass rush and some help for Jevon Kearse. The addition of rookie draft pick Brodrick Bunkley may be just what the Birds need. His strength is amazing and could add the up the middle pass rush that the Eagles have been missing.

Weaknesses

• What is going to happen if this unit can't rebound and raise their performance to the level of their Super Bowl year? The Eagles really didn't lose any players on the defense except for Keith Adams and Hollis Thomas. Everything really depends on if last season was for real or a fluke. Fans of the Eagles hope it was a fluke.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Jabar Gaffney	Texans	WR	6'1"	205
FA	NA	Shawn Barber	Chiefs	LB	6'2"	240
FA	NA	Jeff Garcia	Lions	QB	6'1"	200
Rookie	1	Brodrick Bunkley	Florida State	DT	6'3"	307
Rookie	2	Winston Justice	USC	T	6'6"	320

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Donovan McNabb • Quarterback (QB) #5

Showcase Plays for McNabb

Singleback Trips Bunch



Pinkston Option

• The multiple receiver packages that the Eagles run allow McNabb to create problems for the opposing defense. The Trips Bunch Pinkston Option displays this. Once McNabb takes the snap he scrambles to move the pocket and then hits the flanker running the crossing route.

I Form 3WR



PA FB Flat

• Many of the Eagles' schemes use play action in the passing game. One of the plays that gives McNabb the option to pass first and run if nothing is there is the PA FB Flat. The play action fake lets McNabb roll to the outside without any pressure in his face and then throw the ball downfield to an open slot receiver.



Key Attributes

Awareness	84
Speed	79
Throwing Power	95
Throwing Accuracy	87

McNabb can be considered as the best quarterback in the NFC and may make the claim as one of the best in the entire NFL. This season he hopes to get back to his high level of play after coming off an injury-plagued 2005 season. With all the nagging injuries behind him, and the locker room bickering from last year gone, 2006 should be a great year for Donovan.

Jeremiah Trotter • Linebacker (MLB) #54

Showcase Plays for Trotter

43 Cover 1



Robber

• Trotter is known in Philly and around the NFL as the key run stopper on the Eagles' defense. The Cover 1 Robber shows just how dominant he is when playing the run. Once the play begins, Trotter sifts through the O-linemen and blows the running back up before he makes a gain on the play.

43 OLB



Fire 3

• In order to be a Pro Bowl MLB you must be able to play both the run and the pass. Trotter can drop back in coverage over the middle and disrupt passing plays. The 43 OLB Fire 3 puts Trotter in a short middle zone and allows him to break up the pass to receivers or tight ends coming across his zone, as seen here.



Key Attributes

Strength	80
Awareness	93
Tackle	92
Speed	77

Ever since coming back to the Eagles he has been the leader of the defense and has been a consistent performer. Trotter comes into this season off of a Pro Bowl season and with the addition of some key D-linemen he should make a lot more plays behind the line this year.

Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

• **Position:** WR 2
• **Substitution:** Jabar Gaffney
• **When:** Global
• **Advantage:** Starting Gaffney over Pinkston is the best plan. Gaffney has the best hands out of our receivers. He will not be afraid to go across the middle for the big catch.

• **Position:** LG
• **Substitution:** Max Jean-Gilles
• **When:** Global
• **Advantage:** This is a decision based on size. If we add Jean-Gilles to the starting lineup we will have 1,000-plus pounds between him, Hank Fraley, and Shawn Andrews. Sounds like a good wall to be behind.

• **Position:** DT
• **Substitution:** Brodrick Bunkley
• **When:** Third Down and passing situations
• **Advantage:** We want Bunkley on the field with Mike Patterson in pass situations. They can use their quickness and strength to get a solid push up the middle.

Fantasy Outlook

• **Star:** Donovan McNabb
• **Draft:** 4th
• **2006 Outlook:** In 2005, McNabb had to deal with TO's antics plus he tried to play with a sports hernia. With TO out of the picture and fully healed, he is poised to put up big numbers.

• **Star:** Brian Westbrook
• **Draft:** 6th
• **2006 Outlook:** Westbrook may never put up big time rushing yardage, but what he will do is give you great overall fantasy production numbers as a runner and receiver.

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Coaching Profile

Andy Reid

- **Head Coaching Year:** 8th
- **Experience:** Assistant coach to Mike Holmgren for seven years in Green Bay (1992-98)

Reid, 47, has earned NFL Coach of the Year honors twice, compiled the highest win total (77) and winning percentage (.621) in team history, captured four consecutive division titles and four trips to the NFC Championship game from 2001-04.

TEAM STRATEGY

Detailed Package Info

Philadelphia Eagles

- **Formation:** Singleback-Flip Trips
- **Package:** Big
- **Play:** Toss Crack
- **Advantage:** Gives us both tight ends and the FB to the trips side and our number-one receiver backside. Great to help in the run or screen game.

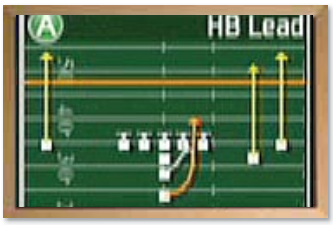
- **Formation:** Singleback-Trips Bunch
- **Package:** HB Wideout
- **Play:** Westbrook Option
- **Advantage:** Creates a mismatch by either putting a nickel or LB on Westbrook or leaving a LB or safety on one of our top two receivers.

- **Formation:** 4-3 Under
- **Package:** Coverage Flip
- **Play:** Buzz Duo
- **Advantage:** This flips the coverage between the safeties or deep zones. Great for enhancing zones and confusing the offense.

Key Offensive Plays

A — I Form-3WR

1st & 2nd down



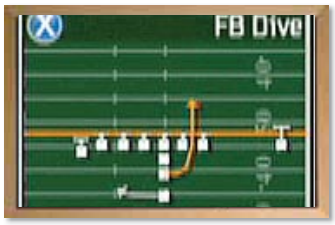
• HB Lead

Brian Westbrook is a very important key in the Eagles' offense. Establish him as a factor in the run game with the HB Lead. Get the ball and then follow the fullback to daylight. Any space can lead Westbrook to the end zone.



B — I Form-Twin TE

Short yardage



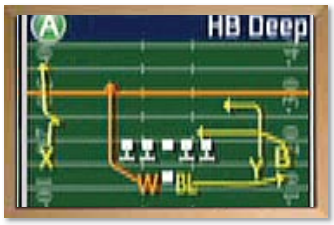
• FB Dive

When the situation calls for a gain of only one or two yards, call on the FB Dive. Nothing gives us another set of downs in short yardage situations better than this play.



C — Shotgun-2RB 3WR

Any down and distance



• HB Deep

When looking over the field we can see the defense has to account for five receiving threats. McNabb can take off and run or sit in the pocket and pick the crossing route by the FL or the HB going deep.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Strong I-3WR	PA Pound Draw Pass, WR Option, Deep Cross	**Near-Normal**	HB Inside, FB Dive Strong, FB Fake HB Toss
Singleback -Big	PA Boot, Double Drag, TE Option, Curl Flats	**I Form-Normal**	Eagles HB Dive, FB Dive Fake HB, HB Dive Wk

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Hank Fraley	84	88	48	88
C	Jamaal Jackson	78	85	57	69
FB	Josh Parry	74	75	65	60
HB	Brian Westbrook	89	65	94	87
HB	Ryan Moats	79	59	92	67
HB	Reno Mahe	69	59	89	60
HB	Bruce Perry	66	54	87	55
LG	Todd Herremans	81	88	54	70
LG	Max Jean-Gilles	74	95	42	60
LG	Adrien Clarke	69	88	39	61
LT	William Thomas	94	95	46	91
LT	Winston Justice	75	89	56	49
QB	Donovan McNabb	94	66	79	84
QB	Jeff Garcia	81	44	65	83
QB	Koy Detmer	74	44	52	84

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
RG	Shawn Andrews	87	97	51	69
RG	Scott Young	68	86	50	52
RT	Jon Runyan	90	97	48	92
RT	Calvin Armstrong	67	82	44	60
TE	L.J. Smith	87	69	81	76
TE	Matt Schobel	76	69	80	66
TE	Mike Bartrum	70	67	60	70
WR	Reggie Brown	83	56	90	69
WR	Jabar Gaffney	79	44	86	72
WR	Todd Pinkston	77	35	90	77
WR	Greg Lewis	76	49	93	70
WR	Jason Avant	75	58	87	60
WR	Darnerien McCants	75	64	87	69

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Key Defensive Plays

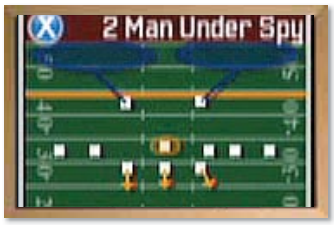
A 4-3-Normal
1st & 2nd down, passing situation



• 2 Man Under
This defense prevents a team from beating us over the middle on square ins or posts. Dhani Jones bats the ball down as Witten tries to make the catch.



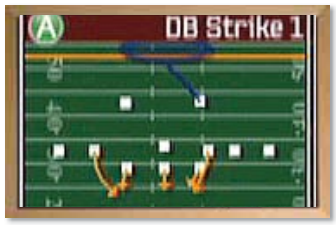
B Quarter-Norma
3rd & 4th down, passing situation



• 2 Man Under Spy
When our defense faces a team with a great receiver or two speedy outside receivers, we want to make it hard for them to get the ball deep. This play keeps a team from beating us deep by using man coverage with two-deep coverage by the safeties.



C Dime-Quarter-Normal
3rd & 4th down, except Big formations



• DB Strike
We can use this play to get pressure from our main two pass rushers. The play has five defenders blitzing, five in man coverage and one safety playing deep middle. The pressure from our defensive ends and inner cornerbacks gets to the QB right away.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
4-3-Over	Frisco Wham 0, Hawk Blitz 1, LB Wham Dogs	**4-3 Normal**	Double QB Spy, Cover 1, 4 Deep Quarters, Cover 2
Nickel-Normal	Over Storm Brave, Silver Shoot Pinch, DB Fox Blitz	**Dime-Normal**	Prevent, DB Contain, Safe 3 Deep, Quarters Spy

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Depth Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Skill
CB	Sheldon Brown	89	55	91	84
CB	Lito Sheppard	88	52	92	80
CB	Roderick Hood	80	60	90	74
CB	Donald Strickland	75	54	88	65
CB	Matt Ware	73	59	87	56
DT	Darwin Walker	87	86	66	77
DT	Mike Patterson	85	86	63	70
DT	Brodrick Bunkley	82	84	65	60
DT	Sam Rayburn	73	83	60	65
FS	Brian Dawkins	98	63	90	92
FS	Quintin Mikell	71	62	84	63
LE	Jevon Kearse	93	73	85	80
LE	Jerome McDougle	76	68	77	65
LE	Juqua Thomas	70	66	69	64
LOLB	Dhani Jones	86	76	80	81
LOLB	Chris Gocong	73	75	78	56
MLB	Jeremiah Trotter	93	80	77	93
MLB	Mark Simoneau	77	71	80	78
RE	Darren Howard	89	81	74	79
RE	Trent Cole	83	74	76	65
ROLB	Shawn Barber	86	67	82	85
ROLB	Matt McCoy	74	67	82	67
SS	Michael Lewis	92	67	87	83
SS	Sean Considine	71	62	86	55

Special Teams

Pos.	Depth Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Skill
K	David Akers	95	50	62	90
P	Dirk Johnson	77	41	58	68

Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

Our concession prices are right in line with the rest of the league. Our coaches can't complain—we pay them top dollar. We should think about using some of the cap room we have left. The parking rates are reasonable and fans aren't complaining.

Team Salary: 72.3M
Cap Room: 33.1M
Key Rival: New York Giants
NFL Icons:
• Jevon Kearse
• Donovan McNabb
•Philosophy:
• Offense: West Coast
• Defense: Disrupt Passing
Prestige: High
Team Needs:
• Wide Receiver
• Running Back
Highest Paid Players:
• Jevon Kearse
• Donovan McNabb
Up and Coming Players:
• Brodrick Bunkley
• Mike Patterson

Team Trivia

Philadelphia Eagles Facts

Answers are on the following page.

1 Which Eagle quarterback threw for 464 yards in one game, setting a team record?

2 What college did former Eagles defensive end Reggie White attend?

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Frankford, PA | **Starting Year:** 1933 | **League:** NFC

Franchise Beginnings

Bert Bell and Lud Wray bought the rights to the NFL franchise Frankford Yellow Jackets in 1933 for $2,500, then moved the team to Philadelphia and renamed it to the Eagles. It was a tough beginning—their first winning season didn't happen until 1943, when both the Pittsburgh Steelers and the Eagles combined teams for one season as "the Phil-Pitt Steagles". (They finished 5-4-1.) The Eagles reached the NFL Championship game three times in a row (1947-48), and won two of them—once in 1948, then again in 1949.

Notable Moments

• 1948 NFL Title

The Eagles had a 9-2-1 season record and won the Eastern Division Championship. In the NFL Championship Game, known as the Blizzard Bowl, it was a rematch with Chicago Cardinals from the 1947 title game; the Eagles won 7-0 for its first ever NFL Championship.

• Check Bednarik's Game-Saving Tackle

In the Eagles' 1960 NFL championship victory over the Green Bay Packers, Chuck Bednarik finished the game with a tackle that ensured the Eagles' win. With just a few seconds left, Packers running back Jim Taylor looked like he was going to score the winning touchdown—until Bednarik tackled him and ended the game.

Notable Figures



Al Messerschmidt/WireImage.com

Ron Jaworski ('77-'86)

Originally drafted by the Rams in 1973, Jaworski was traded to the Eagles in 1977. Known as "Jaws", his leadership helped the Eagles advance to the NFC playoffs in 1978 and 1979. In 1980, he led the Eagles to a 12-4 record, the NFC Championship, and their first-ever Super Bowl (Super Bowl XV vs. the Oakland Raiders).

Chuck Bednarik ('49-'62)

Known as "Concrete Charley," Chuck Bednarik was the last NFL player to play both offense and defense. Bednarik lined up at center in the offense and played linebacker for 253 games. He has a college football award named after him for the best Defensive Player of the Year, and was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1967.

Bert Bell ('33-'45)

Bert Bell became the owner of the Philadelphia Eagles in 1933. (He later moved to Pittsburgh to become co-owner of the Pittsburgh Steelers.) In 1946, Bell became the NFL commissioner. He also founded the Maxwell Football club and has the Professional Player of the Year award named after him. He was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1963.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• The first-ever **televised** pro football game was a Philadelphia Eagles 14-23 loss to the Brooklyn Dodgers on October 22, 1939.

• The Eagles hosted the NFC Championship Game for **three consecutive years** (2002-2004). No other NFL team has hosted the NFC Championship Game three times in a row.

• The **symbol** for the Eagles came from the National Recovery Administration's symbol of the New Deal headed by Franklin D. Roosevelt.

• On December 31, 1988, the Eagles played in the infamous "Fog Bowl" at Chicago Soldier Field. The Eagles were poised to make a run toward the Super Bowl, but in a turn of bad luck a thick fog clouded Soldier Field that day keeping the Eagles from playing their usual style and leading to a devastating loss 20-12.

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:
Ron Jaworski ('77-'86) **2,088**

• Passing Yards:
Ron Jaworski ('77-'86) **26,963**

• Passing Touchdowns:
Ron Jaworski ('77-'86) **175**

• Receptions:
Harold Carmichael ('71-'83) **589**

• Receiving Yards:
Harold Carmichael ('71-'83) **8,978**

• Rushing Yards:
Wilbert Montgomery ('77-'84) **6,538**

• Career Points Leader:
Bobby Walston ('51-'62) **881**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Interceptions:
Bill Bradley ('69-'76) **34**

Team Trivia

Answers

1 Donovan McNabb's big day was against the Green Bay Packers on December 12, 2004.

2 Reggie White was drafted out of Tennessee in the first round of the 1984 supplemental draft.

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ATLANTA FALCONS

Division: NFC South | **Stadium:** Georgia Dome | **Type:** Dome | **Capacity:** 71,149 | **Surface:** Turf

2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
8	8	0	351	341	4-4	4-4	3-1	5-7	2-4

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	89
Offense	89
Defense	90

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Team Rankings

Scoring	14th
Passing Offense	27th
Rushing Offense	1st
Passing Defense	14th
Rushing Defense	26th
Turnovers	14th

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• The third year in the West Coast Offense is supposed to be the year the quarterback steps into his own. Michael Vick sure hopes so as by the end of last year he was vocal on how the play calling had become boring. The offense as a whole should be better this season.

Weaknesses

• Michael Vick can't really be a negative part of the offense but he must become more selective when deciding to scramble so that the rest of the offense can be more efficient. We also wonder how long can Dunn stay playing at such a high level and is T.J. Duckett capable of being an every down back if Dunn isn't 100 percent?

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

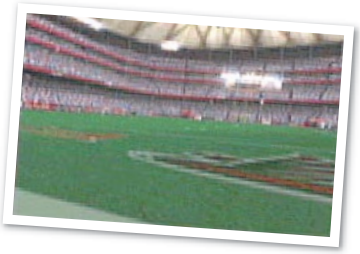
• Young Pro-Bowl corner DeAngelo Hall represents what this defense is all about: speed, speed, and more speed. Add another speedy rookie corner in Jimmy Williams from Virginia Tech and the defense looks to make a statement this season. The Falcons also added John Abraham to put pressure up front.

Weaknesses

• The Falcons are going to have to prove that they can stop the run this year. The division has added some serious backs, and last season this defense did not prove stingy to teams that like to run. There have also been a few additions to the defense and time will tell if they can work together as a unit.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	John Abraham	Jets	DE	6'4"	258
FA	NA	Wayne Gandy	Saints	T	6'4"	315
FA	NA	Lawyer Milloy	Bills	S	6'0"	190
Rookie	2	Jimmy Williams	Virginia Tech	CB	6'2"	214
Rookie	3	Jerious Norwood	Miss State	RB	6'0"	203



Playing As: Atlanta Falcons

❶ Michael Vick must be used as a weapon when playing offense.

❷ Vick is a video game superstar, and we stress making sure that he is used in ways that show off his running ability.

❸ On the defensive side of the ball there is plenty of speed at all levels and DeAngelo Hall can roam the field if you choose.

Playing Against: Atlanta Falcons

1 The golden rule is to not let Michael Vick beat you with his feet.

2 Always play some type of defense that allows you to spy on one side while you manually cover the opposite side of the field.

3 When attacking the Falcons defense, run on them. They have plenty of speed but not a lot of size, so beat them there.

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Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

- **Position:** WR 3
- **Substitution:** Jerome Pathon
- **When:** Pass situations
- **Advantage:** Jerome Pathon is a solid receiver who can help our offense. Finneran is a fan favorite but Pathon is the better receiver.

- **Position:** CB 2
- **Substitution:** Jimmy Williams
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** At 6'2" with speed, Jimmy Williams needs to be at one of the starting corner positions. He is not game ready, but because of his height and speed, if he is beat he can recover and still make a play on the ball.

- **Position:** CB
- **Substitution:** Allen Rossum
- **When:** Quarter Package
- **Advantage:** Get Rossum on the field in the Quarter defense and let him play the FS position where he is the innermost DB. He has serious speed for blitzing off the edge or roaming the middle of the field.

Fantasy Outlook

- **Star:** Michael Vick
- **Draft:** 5th round
- **2006 Outlook:** Vick is not going to throw for 3,500 yards with his arm; it just won't happen. What he will do is throw for 2,500 yards and rush for another 1,000. Throw in 25-30 TDs between passing and running, and you get a fantasy stud.

- **Star:** T.J. Duckett
- **Draft:** 12th round
- **2006 Outlook** Inside the red zone is where his fantasy value is at.

Star Players

Michael Vick • Quarterback (QB) #7



Key Attributes

Awareness	77
Speed	92
Throwing Power	96
Throwing Accuracy	79

Must-see-TV is one of his nicknames and normally he is a highlight film in motion. This should be a great year for Vick to showcase his talents because most West Coast quarterbacks have a breakout season in their third year. Even if the offense doesn't click for him this year, he still has amazing athletic ability that allows him to make plays.

Showcase Plays for Vick

Shotgun-5WR



"Any play!"

• One way to take advantage of all that he can do is to call a 5WR set and make the defense play with fewer big men on the field. Once the play starts, all you have to do is allow the receivers to get 5-10 yards downfield and then take off running with Vick. This play yields a first down as we see Vick around the corner heading to the first down marker.

Singleback-Normal



PA Rollout

• After getting the defense on edge because they don't know if Vick will run from passing sets, we can then use this to take advantage of this uncertainty. We start the play and after the PA fake, speed burst Vick out of the pocket. The defender comes up out of coverage and leaves an open passing lane to hit the slot receiver coming across the field.

DeAngelo Hall • Cornerback (CB) #21



Key Attributes

Awareness	83
Acceleration	98
Catching	76
Speed	98

Youth, speed, and arrogance are a perfect combination for a cornerback. DeAngelo Hall has all of them and is sure to let any receiver facing him know about it. He boosted his confidence by shutting T.O. down in the second half of the season opener and performed well enough throughout the season to earn a Pro Bowl selection.

Showcase Plays for Hall

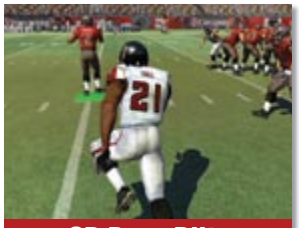
4-3-Normal



2 Man Under

• DeAngelo Hall shows what happens when a player with great talent is used correctly. Many players will try to run deep comebacks or out routes so we put Hall in bump-n-run coverage. When the ball is in the air, Hall breaks hard on the pass and makes the interception..

Nickel-3-3-5



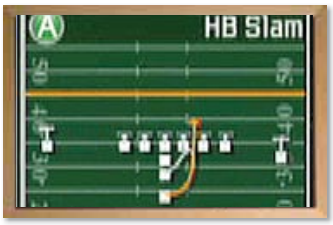
CB Dogs Blitz

• A cornerback with DeAngelo Hall's speed must be used in the blitz game to bring heat. The CB Dogs Blitz brings heat from both corners to bring fast pressure off the edge. In this play Hall blitzes in at the snap of the ball and has a clear shot at the QB. He finishes the play by sacking the quarterback.

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Key Offensive Plays

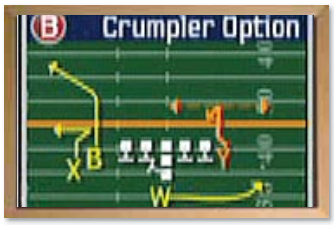
A — I Form-Normal
1st & 2nd down



• HB Slam
Use the HB Slam to get Warrick Dunn involved and take advantage of how quick he hits the hole and then accelerates through it to pick up positive yards. Even if a defender is in the way, he can juke or lower his shoulder to get by.



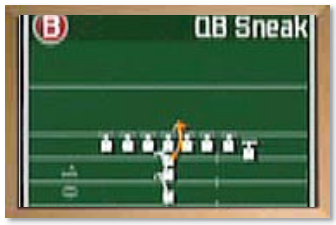
B — I Form-Tight Twins
1st & 2nd down



• Crumpler Option
Because of how successful we are running the ball out of big sets, we take advantage of this assumption and hit Jenkins on his deep corner route and watch him run away from the defenders.



C — Goal Line
short yardage



• QB Sneak
This play is one of the hardest plays to defend against and has led players to Madden Challenge Championships. Use the QB Sneak with the Falcons whenever you need that one tough yard. Vick shows how easy it is as he walks into the end zone.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Singleback-Trips TE	WR Option, TE Corner, HB Screen, Slot Read	**Strong I-Big Tight**	HB Stretch, PA QB Boot, Counter Lead, HB Dive
Shotgun-5WR	Hitch Corners, WR Screen, WR Shake, Slot Option	**Singleback-4WR Falcon**	HB Dive, HB Sprint, HB Draw, HB Pitch

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Todd McClure	91	86	58	87
C	Austin King	67	86	50	56
FB	Justin Griffith	91	70	80	66
FB	Fred McCrary	77	66	56	69
HB	Warrick Dunn	92	62	96	93
HB	T.J.. Duckett	84	78	86	76
HB	Jerious Norwood	75	65	94	54
HB	DeAndra Cobb	71	60	93	45
LG	Matt Lehr	84	90	52	79
LG	Ben Claxton	63	84	49	59
LT	Wayne Gandy	88	92	52	90
LT	Frank Omiyale	65	87	45	55
QB	Michael Vick	91	55	93	77
QB	Matt Schaub	84	64	63	78
QB	Bryan Randall	71	60	69	58

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
QB	D.J. Shockley	71	60	85	42
RG	Kynan Forney	89	87	60	84
RG	Chris McGee	66	85	50	54
RT	Todd Weiner	90	92	54	87
RT	Quinn Ojinnaka	69	83	54	60
TE	Alge Crumpler	95	72	85	84
TE	Eric Beverly	75	86	56	60
TE	Dwayne Blakley	69	72	70	70
WR	Michael Jenkins	82	64	89	72
WR	Roddy White	81	62	93	64
WR	Jerome Pathon	79	44	89	77
WR	Brian Finneran	78	65	85	79
WR	Adam Jennings	70	38	93	46

Coaching Profile

Jim Mora

- **Head Coaching Year:** 3rd
- **Experience:** First-time head coach Jim Mora was hired by the Falcons on January 9, 2004.

Mora served as the 49ers' secondary coach (1997-98). He was named as the secondary coach for the Saints in 1992. During his five years in New Orleans (1992-96), the team twice led the NFL in fewest passing yards allowed (1992-93).

Detailed Package Info

Atlanta Falcons

- **Formation:** Strong I-Twin TE
- **Package:** Spell HB
- **Play:** Counter Lead
- **Advantage:** Brings in T.J. Duckett to spell Warrick Dunn. We use him to punish the defense with his size.

- **Formation:** Shotgun-5WR
- **Package:** HB Slot
- **Play:** Jenkins Option
- **Advantage:** We add Warrick Dunn to this empty back formation and can use his agility and speed to work the flats or middle of the field.

- **Formation:** Nickel-Normal
- **Package:** Strong Nickel
- **Play:** 2 Man Under
- **Advantage:** Bring DeAngelo Hall over to the nickel position and let him work to shut down the interior of the field or the slot receiver.

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Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

The fans are generally happy with the ticket prices. We should leave parking prices where they are for now. We should think about using some of the cap room we've got. Fans are generally happy with our merchandise prices.

Team Salary: 80.9M
Cap Room: 24.5M
Key Rival: New Orleans Saints
NFL Icons: Michael Vick
Philosophy:
- Offense: Establish Run
- Defense: Shutdown Runs

Prestige: Medium
Team Needs:
- Wide Receiver
- Left Outside Linebacker

Highest Paid Players:
- Michael Vick
- Peerless Price

Up and Coming Players:
- Deangelo Hall
- Jimmy Williams

Team Trivia

Atlanta Falcons Facts

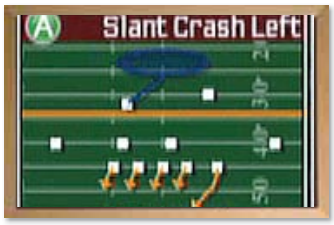
Answers are on the following page.

❶ Who was the first Falcons running back to surpass 1,000 yards rushing in a season?

❷ What team did the Falcons beat for their first ever playoff game victory?

Key Defensive Plays

A 4-3-Under
2nd & 3rd down



• Slant Crash Left
The alignment of the defense is also a plus because it puts pressure on the O-line. At the snap Keith Brooking and John Abraham blitz, but Abraham gets free and registers the sack.



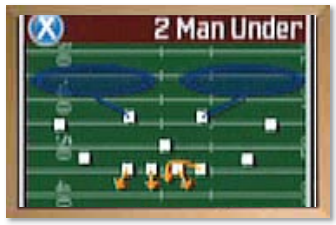
B Nickel-Strong
2nd & 3rd down



• 3 Falcon Fire
The Falcon Fire plans to get Lawyer Milloy, Patrick Kerney, and rookie Jimmy Williams in the backfield to bring pressure to the quarterback. Milloy can't make it through the "A" gap but Kerney and Williams meet at the QB.



C Dime-Flat
pass downs/ line stunt



• 2 Man Under
What makes this special is the line stunt it has assigned to Patrick Kerney and Rod Coleman. When the play starts, Coleman and Kerney loop and pressure the "B" gap. The right guard gets confused and Rod Coleman gets in free to sack the QB.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
4-3 Over	Attack 3 Deep, Safety Blitz, Dogs O Fire, SS Blitz	**Nickel-3-3-5**	2 Man Under, Cover 3, Under 7 Slice, Cover 1
Nickel-3-3-5	CB Sting Blitz, CB Fox Blitz 3, LB Ram Dogs, Engage Eight	**Dime-Normal**	Cover 2 Pinch, Quarters Spy, Double X, 4 Deep Prevent

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	DeAngelo Hall	93	53	98	83
CB	Jason Webster	81	61	87	81
CB	Jimmy Williams	79	70	94	52
CB	Kevin Mathis	74	45	85	77
CB	Chris Cash	72	47	87	62
CB	Allen Rossum	70	42	97	64
DT	Rod Coleman	94	84	75	84
DT	Chad Lavalais	77	79	64	69
DT	Jonathan Babineaux	75	79	67	57
DT	Antwan Lake	71	85	55	63
FS	Chris Crocker	83	56	90	72
FS	Omare Lowe	70	57	91	57
LE	Patrick Kerney	93	76	76	90
LE	Chauncey Davis	73	66	74	45
LOLB	Michael Boley	78	68	80	68
LOLB	Ike Reese	77	70	74	78
MLB	Ed Hartwell	88	83	77	82
MLB	Jordan Beck	71	73	83	59
RE	John Abraham	93	77	80	77
RE	Josh Mallard	68	67	73	49
ROLB	Keith Brooking	95	79	82	90
ROLB	Demorrio Williams	79	67	85	69
SS	Lawyer Milloy	92	70	84	92
SS	Cam Newton	61	60	87	44

Special Teams

K	Zac Derr	68	30	52	70
P	Michael Koenen	79	35	55	58

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Atlanta, GA | **Starting Year:** 1966 | **League:** NFC

Franchise Beginnings

The Atlanta Falcons were awarded a National Football League (NFL) franchise for the 1966 season. The team's first head coach was Norb Hecker, a former assistant to the legendary Vince Lombardi of the Green Bay Packers. In 1978 the Falcons made their playoff debut after posting a 9-7 record. Entering the playoffs as a wild card team, Atlanta beat out the Philadelphia Eagles before falling to the eventual Super Bowl champions, the Dallas Cowboys.

Notable Moments

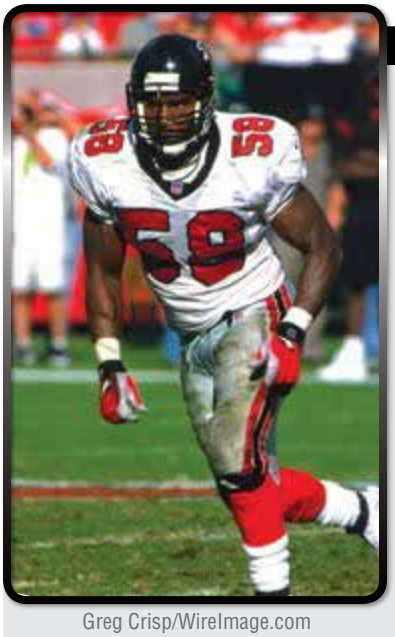
• '77 Falcons Defense

In 1977, the Falcons' defense set an NFL record for allowing a total of only 129 points all season. Despite their astounding defensive effort, the Falcons finished the season 7-7.

• Hail Mary!

November 3, 1991 will be remembered for Falcons fans and 49ers fans alike as the two teams squared off in a closing-minutes showdown. With only 53 seconds left on the clock, the 49ers scored a touchdown to take a 14-10 lead over the Falcons. The Falcons answered back with a 44-yard "Hail Mary" pass by quarterback Joe Tolliver. Wide receiver Michael Haynes caught the pass through a crowd of seven players in the end zone to score with nine seconds remaining.

Notable Figures



Greg Crisp/WireImage.com

Jessie Tuggle ('87-'00)

Nicknamed "The Hammer" for the way he pounded ball carriers, Jessie Tuggle played 14 seasons with the Falcons and led the team in tackles for 10 of them. He even went 12 consecutive seasons recording 100+ tackles. With 2,065 career tackles, Tuggle is the Falcons all-time tackle leader and helped bring the team to their first Super Bowl appearance in 1999.

Steve Bartkowski ('75-'85)

Another of the Falcon's number one overall draft picks to succeed, "Bart" broke into the league with 1,662 throwing yards and 15 touchdowns in his rookie season, earning him NFL Rookie of the Year honors. A reliable player, Steve once started 56 consecutive games, and led the team to their first playoff in 1978 and a pair of division titles in 1980 and 1982.

Tommy Nobis ('66-'76)

Tommy Nobis was the first overall draft pick for the newly formed Falcons in 1966. He would also become the first Falcon to be selected to the Pro Bowl in his first of five trips. His record setting 294 tackles in a rookie season earned him NFL Rookie of the Year. He would continue his legendary toughness throughout his career.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• Atlanta's former CB, Deion "Prime Time" Sanders holds two unique sports records: In 1989, Deion **hit a homerun** for the New York Yankees and **returned a punt for a touchdown** with the Falcons in the **same week**, becoming the only modern athlete to do so. In 1992, Deion became the first to play two professional sports games in the same day when he flew to Pittsburgh to play baseball for the Atlanta Braves after playing a football game that morning in Miami.

• The Falcons set a NFL record in their 1995 season by having a remarkable **four** players to gain **1,000 yards or more**. Receivers Terance Mathis, Eric Metcalf, Bert Emanuel, and running back Craig Heyward all recorded over 1,000 yards.

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:
Steve Bartkowski ('75-'85) **1,870**

• Passing Yards:
Steve Bartkowski ('75-'85) **23,468**

• Passing Touchdowns:
Steve Bartkowski ('75-'85) **154**

• Receptions:
Terance Mathis ('94-'01) **573**

• Receiving Yards:
Terance Mathis ('94-'01) **7,349**

• Receiving Touchdowns:
Terance Mathis ('94-'01) **57**

• Rushing Yards:
Gerald Riggs ('82-'88) **6,631**

• Rushing Touchdowns:
Gerald Riggs ('82-'88) **48**

• Career Points Leader:
Morten Anderson ('95-'00) **620**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:
Claude Humphrey ('68-'78) **510**

• Interceptions:
Rolland Lawrence ('73-'81) **39**

Team Trivia

Answers

❶ Dave Hampton accomplished this feat with 1,002 yards in 1975.

❷ The Falcons' first and their only playoff appearance of the 1970's came in 1978. They narrowly defeated the Philadelphia Eagles in the NFC Wildcard game 14-13.

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SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

Division: NFC West | **Stadium:** Monster Park | **Type:** Dome | **Capacity:** 70,000 | **Surface:** Turf



2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
4	12	0	239	428	3-5	1-7	1-3	3-9	2-4

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	83
Offense	84
Defense	83

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Team Rankings

Scoring	30th
Passing Offense	32nd
Rushing Offense	17th
Passing Defense	32nd
Rushing Defense	18th
Turnovers	22nd

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• The 49ers do not have much talent on the offensive side of the ball, but there is potential. Frank Gore looks to take over duties as the team's feature back after coming on strong late in the season. The 49ers drafted Vernon Davis with their first round pick. Davis and Eric Johnson should form one of the league's top tight end tandems.

Weaknesses

• Alex Smith did not have the type of rookie season the 49ers front office envisioned when they made him the league's number-one pick in the 2005 draft. The offensive line needs a lot of work. Former Cowboy star Larry Allen was brought in to help improve the run game, but one has to wonder how much he has left in the tank. The 49ers do not have a true number-one receiver.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• After 12 seasons of playing in the NFL one would think Bryant Young would start to slow down, especially on a team that has not been very good over the past few years. That assumption would be wrong. Young still plays at a high level and is the unquestioned leader of the defense. Derek Smith returns as the team's top tackler with 116 in 2005.

Weaknesses

• Julian Peterson is perhaps their biggest loss. He was one of the team's leaders on defense as well as one of the few playmakers. Another weakness is at cornerback. Ahmed Plummer was released and Walt Harris was brought in to replace him. Harris is solid, but he is not a lock down.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Larry Allen	Cowboys	OG	6'3"	325
FA	NA	Antonio Bryant	Browns	WR	6'2"	188
FA	NA	Walt Harris	Colts	CB	5'11"	190
Rookie	1	Vernon Davis	Maryland	TE	6'4"	253
Rookie	1	Manny Lawson	N.C. State	DE	6'6"	245

TEAM STRATEGY

Playing As: San Francisco 49ers

1. Don't get too fancy with the passing game and Alex Smith. He does not have the best accuracy or the strongest arm.

2. Call a lot of two tight end sets that feature rookie Vernon Davis and Eric Johnson. Both have good hands and are great targets inside the red zone

3. Call a lot of zone coverage to keep the receivers in front of the defensive backs. Do not blitz often, especially when in man coverage.

Playing Against: San Francisco 49ers

1. Bring pressure on Alex Smith as much as you can. He will have trouble beating the blitz consistently.

2. Double bracket Davis if he starts to become a problem in the passing game.

3. Look to attack the 49er cornerbacks if one-on-one matchups occur. None of the team's corners can lock down good receivers consistently.

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Star Players

Antonio Bryant • Wide Receiver (WR) #81

Showcase Plays for Bryant

Split Backs-Normal



FL Corner

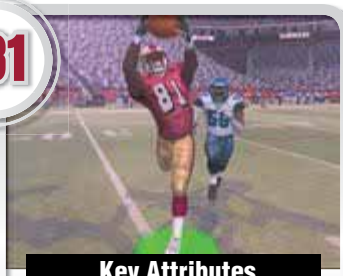
• This play has Bryant running a corner route. Before he runs to the corner, he slants over the middle. If you see him open while he is running the slant portion of his route, make the throw. If not, wait until he breaks to the corner before making the pass.

Singleback-4WR



Quick Slants

• Bryant has the ability to turn a short pass route into to big pick up once he makes the catch. The Singleback-4WR Quick Slants has Bryant running a quick slant from the right side of the field. Once he makes his break, throw him the ball. After he makes the grab, use his talents to pick up yardage after the catch.



Key Attributes

Awareness	77
Acceleration	92
Catching	85
Speed	91

Antonio Bryant came on strong at the end of last season with the Cleveland Browns. With the 49ers losing their top receiver from 2005, they needed to sign another receiver to be their number 1. Bryant has the talent to succeed, but he may not put up big numbers until Alex Smith gets more comfortable as an NFL starter.

Tony Parrish • Safety (SS) #33

Showcase Plays for Parrish

3-4-Over



Engage 8

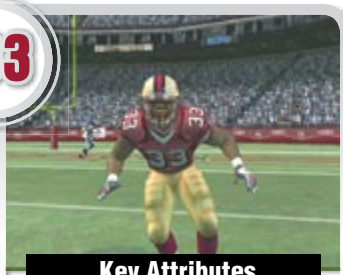
• This play brings everything but the kitchen sink to stop the run. We like to bring Parrish up near the line of scrimmage where he can use his tackling skills to make sure the ball carrier does not go anywhere. In the screen shot, Parrish is about to blow the halfback up in the backfield.

Quarter-3 Deep Under



Man Zone

• This defense puts Parrish and the two other safeties in deep coverage, making it really hard for the opposing quarterback to find any open receivers down the field. The pass coverage underneath is man. There is only a three-man pass rush, so you may want to take control of a defensive end and manually pass rush the quarterback yourself.



Key Attributes

Strength	66
Awareness	89
Tackle	73
Speed	84

Tony Parrish is one of the few defenders who still remains with the 49ers from last year. He has always been known as a hard hitter throughout the league. He has lost a step over the last few years, but he has the awareness to get himself into position to make plays against the run or pass.

Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

- **Position:** FB
- **Substitution:** Eric Johnson
- **When:** Single tight end sets
- **Advantage:** We recommend subbing Johnson in at fullback in all single tight end formations. That way his talents won't go to waste on the bench.

- **Position:** RG
- **Substitution:** Eric Heitmann
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** If you plan on running a lot of traps and counters, this move may not be wise. However, if you plan pounding the rock inside and want a better offensive lineman overall, this is a great move.

- **Position:** KR/PR
- **Substitution:** Maurice Hicks
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** The default kick and punt returner is Brandon Williams. His overall rating is a 58. Instead we like to have Maurice Hicks returning. He may not be as fast, but he won't put the ball on the ground as much.

Fantasy Outlook

- **Star:** Kevan Barlow
- **Draft:** late
- **2006 Outlook:** Barlow will be splitting carries with Frank Gore, so that doesn't bode well for his fantasy numbers. Another factor is the 49ers' passing game is not going to scare too many defenses.

- **Star:** Vernon Davis
- **Draft:** 7th round
- **2006 Outlook:** Although he plays on a weak passing team, his numbers should be good enough to be worthy of a late round pick.

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Coaching Profile

Mike Nolan

- **Head Coaching Year:** 2nd
- **Experience:** Nolan has been with the Ravens since 2001, coaching the receivers for one season before leading their powerful defense for the past three years.

During his three years as Ravens' defensive coordinator, the defense ranked among the top in the league. With his hands-on approach, the 49ers will continue to improve.

TEAM STRATEGY

Detailed Package Info

San Francisco 49ers

- **Formation:** I Form-Normal
- **Package:** Spell HB
- **Play:** HB Misdirection
- **Advantage:** When Frank Gore needs to take a breather, this package relieves him with Kevan Barlow.

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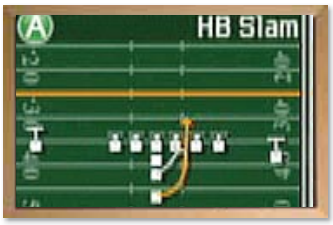
- **Formation:** Strong I-Twin WR
- **Package:** TE Slot
- **Play:** WR Flag
- **Advantage:** Despite being just rookie, Vernon Davis is the team's best receiver. This package moves him to the slot. Linebackers and defensive backs will have a hard time defending him without any help.

- **Formation:** Nickel-Strong
- **Package:** FS Snake Blitz 3
- **Play:** Safety Swap
- **Advantage:** Tony Parrish now lines up at free safety and is sent in on a blitz. The quarterback will not have much time when this defense is called.

Key Offensive Plays

A I Form-Normal

1st & 2nd dow and short



• HB Slam

The play is designed to have the halfback run between the right guard and right tackle. Another thing we like about this play is the ability to bounce the halfback outside if nothing opens up inside.



B Singleback-Big

Any down after the run



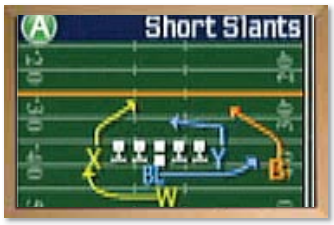
• Ace Play Action

Calling plays from two tight end formations is a sound strategy. The Singleback-Big Ace Play Action has rookie tight end Vernon Davis running a deep post route. Once he breaks over the middle, throw him a high pass.



C I Form-Big

1st & 2nd down,pass situation



• Short Slants

Look for the receiver on the right running the short slant. Once he makes his cut, throw him a bullet pass. If he is not open, look for the halfback running the swing route to the left.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Singleback-Emtpy Trey	Curl Flats, Twin Combos, TE Middle, WR Smash	Singleback-Big Twin WR	HB Dive, HB Power, Off Tackle Wk, HB Belly Strong
Shotgun-Trips Bunch	Corner Flats, Flanker Drive, Read Middle, Slant Attack	Singleback-4WR	HB Dive, HB Sweep, HB Cutback, HB Draw

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

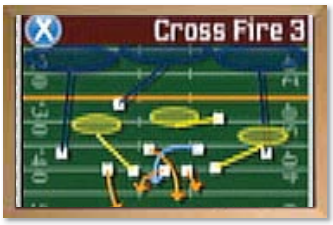
Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Jeremy Newberry	89	93	49	88
C	Ben Sobieski	64	82	49	55
FB	Chris Hetherington	69	64	62	60
FS	Mike Adams	77	54	85	67
FS	Keith Lewis	69	55	87	48
HB	Kevan Barlow	82	75	86	77
HB	Frank Gore	80	73	88	60
HB	Maurice Hicks	75	62	87	68
LG	Larry Allen	90	98	44	95
LG	David Baas	79	88	54	65
LT	Jonas Jennings	87	94	54	85
LT	Patrick Estes	68	85	50	56
QB	Alex Smith	82	55	73	70
QB	Trent Dilfer	81	62	45	87
QB	Cody Pickett	69	58	73	62

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
RG	Eric Heitmann	85	90	51	82
RG	Justin Smiley	82	87	60	72
RT	Kwame Harris	83	88	55	78
RT	Adam Snyder	78	91	49	69
TE	Vernon Davis	86	75	92	57
TE	Eric Johnson	86	67	73	84
TE	Terry Jones	72	72	65	67
WR	Antonio Bryant	86	66	91	77
WR	Arnaz Battle	82	60	89	75
WR	Brandon Williams	77	41	91	62
WR	Bryan Gilmore	73	45	92	71
WR	Rasheed Marshall	69	56	87	43
WR	Otis Amey	65	40	89	45

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Key Defensive Plays

A 3-4-Over
1st & 2nd down, attack the run



• Cross Fire 3

If the offense is smashing the ball up the gut and you are having a hard time defending against it, this ends three linebackers on a run blitz to plug up the holes. At least one of them will find a gap and blow up the ball carrier before much damage is done.



B 3-4-Normal
1st & 2nd down, defend the pass



• Cover 2

Call zone defenses such as the 3-4-Normal Cover 2. This defense does a good job covering all portions of the field. The only downfall is there is only a 3-man pass rush.



C Quarter-Normal
3rd & long, passing situation



• 3 Deep Man

If you decide to call man coverage defenses, call ones where there are safeties dropping back in deep zone coverage such as this. If the 49er corners get beat, there will be three safeties deep to prevent the big play. The coverage underneath is man.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
3-4-Solid	Enagage Eight, Gap Press. Sting Pinch, Inside Blitz	**3-4-Under**	2 Man Under, Cover 3, Drop Zone, Double Man
Dime-Normal	MLB Blitz, DB Blitz, SS Gut Blitz, 1 Man CB Snake	**Nickel-3-3-5**	2 Man Under, Cover 3, 2 Deep Robber, Man Lock Spy

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Shawntae Spencer	83	54	91	75
CB	WaltHarris	81	49	87	85
CB	Sammy Davis	77	52	91	68
CB	Mike Rumph	75	64	88	64
CB	Derrick Johnson	68	45	89	56
CB	B.J. Tucker	65	39	96	50
CB	Bruce Thornton	64	52	86	55
DT	Anthony Adams	77	83	61	68
DT	Isaac Sopoaga	76	93	55	55
DT	Ronald Fields	71	87	55	58
FS	Mike Adams	77	54	85	67
FS	Keith Lewis	69	55	87	48
LE	Bryant Young	89	88	64	94
LE	Melvin Oliver	74	83	65	55
LOLB	Parys Haralson	75	72	76	70
LOLB	Corey Smith	61	61	70	69
MLB	Derek Smith	90	77	76	92
MLB	Jeff Ulbrich	85	74	76	86
MLB	Brandon Moore	77	74	78	73
RE	Marques Douglas	84	78	71	76
RE	Scott Scharff	62	72	64	48
ROLB	Manny Lawson	79	69	90	58
ROLB	T.J. Slaughter	76	75	76	68
SS	Tony Parrish	91	66	84	89
SS	Chad Williams	78	66	81	70
SS	Ben Emanuel	72	60	85	60

Special Teams

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
K	Joe Nedney	91	37	49	82
P	Andy Lee	77	40	61	

Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

The playoff drought is hurting our bottom line. We are not paying our coaches very competitive salaries. We're not spending as much as most teams on stadium upkeep. We've got plenty of room under the cap to make an important hire.

Team Salary: 66.5M
Cap Room: 39.0M
Key Rival: Dallas Coboys
NFL Icons: None
Philosophy:
- Offense: West Coast
- Defense: Disrupt Passing

Prestige: Low
Team Needs:
- Defensive Line
- Linebacker

Highest Paid Players:
- Alex Smith
- Jonas Jennings

Up and Coming Players:
- Alex Smith
- Vernon Davis

Team Trivia

San Francisco 49ers Facts

Answers are on the following page.

1 In what year were the Niners admitted into the NFL?

2 The most profilic play in San Francisco history - what is known as "The Catch" was between which two 49er players?

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: San Francisco, CA | **Starting Year:** 1946 | **League:** NFC

Franchise Beginnings

The San Francisco 49ers began play in 1946 as a charter member of the All-America Football Conference and joined the NFL in 1950 after the AAFC merged into the older league. Thanks to Anthony (Tony) Morabito, his younger brother Victor, and his partners in the lumber business – the 49ers have the distinction of being the first major league professional franchise to set up on the West Coast. Currently, the club is the city's only "home grown" sports franchise.

Notable Moments

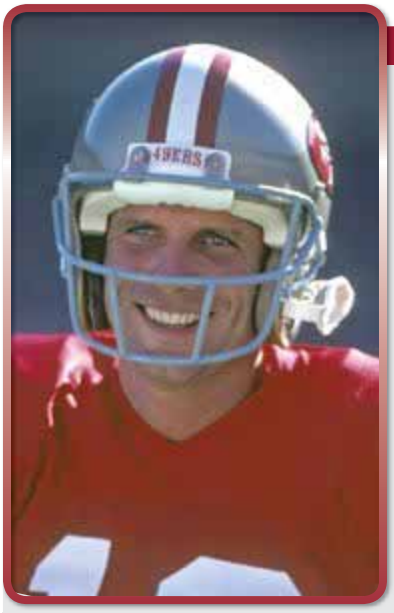
• "The Catch"

In the final seconds of the 1982 National Football Conference (NFC) championship game versus the Dallas Cowboys, San Francisco 49ers quarterback Joe Montana lofted a pass to Dwight Clark. Clark's spectacular fingertip catch one of the most memorable moments in NFL History.

• "The Drive"

In the 1989 Super Bowl, the 49ers were down 13-16, pinned on their own 8-yard line with 3:10 left in the game. Joe Montana led the team on a 10-play drive down to the 10-yard line with 39 seconds remaining. On the final play, Montana threw a strike across the middle to the back of the end zone for a touchdown. The final score of 20-16 gave them their 3rd Super Bowl title.

Notable Figures



Al Messerschmidt/WireImage.com

Joe Montana ('79-'92)

Four Super Bowl victories, three Super Bowl MVP's, All-NFL three times, All-NFC five times, and eight Pro Bowls are but a piece of his legend. Mr. Montana is a master of come-from-behind wins. He compiled 31 fourth quarter victories, including "The Drive." This 3rd Round draft pick from Notre Dame can be argued as one of, if not the greatest QBs in NFL history.

Bill Walsh ('79-'88)

Mr. Walsh is known for leading the 49ers to 3 Super Bowl victories and being the brainchild of the "West Coast Offense". Mr. Walsh started his career at the age of 47, and won his first Championship after only three years. His overall record of 102-63-1 included 10 postseason wins.

Jerry Rice ('85-'00)

As of the 2004 season, he holds NFL records for 207 lifetime touchdowns, 1,549 receptions, 1,848 receiving yards, 197 lifetime touchdown receptions, and 22 touchdown receptions in a single season. As a 49er, he played 238 games, caught 1,281 passes, accumulated 19,247 receiving yards, and received 176 touchdowns.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• In 1985 the 49ers Hall of Fame safety, Ronnie Lott, had part of his **pinky finger amputated** after getting it caught in an opposing player's face mask. Rather than get surgery and be out of football for any period of time, Ronnie elected to have the tip of his finger amputated saying, "It wasn't like I was going to have a good-looking finger, because it was pretty much destroyed."

• The 49ers have **never** lost a Super Bowl. The team has been victorious in each Championship game, having reached the Super Bowl in 1982, 1985, 1989-90, and 1995.

• On October 27, 1957, original owner Tony Morabito passed away from a heart attack while watching the team play the Chicago Bears at Kezar Stadium. Upon hearing the news, the team stormed back from a **7-17 deficit**, upsetting the Bears in a **21-17 victory**.

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:
Joe Montana ('79-'92) **2,929**

• Passing Yards:
Joe Montana ('79-'92) **35,124**

• Passing Touchdowns:
Joe Montana ('79-'92) **244**

• Receptions:
Jerry Rice ('85-'00) **1206**

• Receiving Yards:
Jerry Rice ('85-'00) **18,442**

• Receiving Touchdowns:
Jerry Rice ('85-'00) **169**

• Rushing Yards:
Joe Perry ('50-'60,'63) **7,344**

• Rushing Touchdowns:
Roger Craig ('83-'90) **50**
Joe Perry ('50-'60,'63) **50**

• Career Points Leader:
Jerry Rice ('85-'00) **1,130**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:
Cedrick Hardman ('70-'79) **112.5**

• Interceptions:
Ronnie Lott ('81-'90) **51**

Team Trivia

Answers

1 The 49ers were one of only three teams from the AAFL to survive the 1950 merger with the NFL.

2 Joe Montana & Dwight Clark.

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NEW YORK GIANTS

Divison: NFC East | **Stadium:** Giants Stadium | **Type:** Open | **Capacity:** 80,062 | **Surface:** Turf

2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
11	5	0	422	314	7-1	4-4	3-1	8-4	4-2

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	89
Offense	89
Defense	89

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Team Rankings

Scoring	3rd
Passing Offense	11th
Rushing Offense	6th
Passing Defense	27th
Rushing Defense	12th
Turnovers	4th

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• The Giants have so much talent on offense. Jeremy Shockey is still one of the best young tight ends in the game. Plaxico Burress is a big target receiver who helps the offense in the red zone and can stretch the field. And the man running the show, Eli Manning, is steadily becoming better

Weaknesses

• The Giants have not brought in a solid backup to Barber's position. Brandon Jacobs has potential but he also had a problem putting the ball on the ground at key times. Eli Manning also presents a unique weakness: anything other than greatness by him is considered failure, and that type of pressure can be a burden for a young player..

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• Teams now have to deal with not only Strahan and Umenyiora but worry about the pass rushing ability of LB LaVar Arrington. With that pressure up front, you have to get by a secondary that now includes Sam Madison. They have pressure up front, playmaking linebackers, and playmakers in the secondary. Add it together and it spells success.

Weaknesses

• The defense is pretty much the same as last season except for a few key additions and the release of Will Peterson. The Giants are set at the defensive end position but what are they doing to strengthen the middle of the unit at D-tackle?

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	LaVar Arrington	Redskins	LB	6'3"	255
FA	NA	Sam Madison	Dolphins	CB	5'11"	180
FA	NA	R.W. McQuarters	Lions	CB	5'10"	195
Rookie	1	Mathias Kiwanuka	Boston College	DT	6'6"	265
Rookie	2	Sinorice Moss	Miami	WR	5'8"	184



Playing As: New York Giants

1. Use Plaxico Burress, Armani Toomer, and Jeremy Shockey to high catch over almost any defender in the game.

2. Playing defense with the Giants is a treat also. Both defensive ends are strong and fast and come off the edge with reckless abandon

3. Now that the defense has LaVar Arrington, blitz early and often with the Giants and someone is sure to reach the QB.

Playing Against: New York Giants

1. One of the better ways to defend the Giants offense is to play man to man when they are not in bunch or trip sets.

2. Burress tends to drop balls, so hit him when the ball arrives and watch him put it on the ground.

3. Many times a person using the Giants' defense will try to manual rush the ends upfield. If this is what you are facing, run the ball in the lane the D-end vacates

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Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

- **Position:** PR/KR
- **Substitution:** Sinorice Moss
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** Moss will be our return man and hope he performs just like Randy or Santana. We are sure he will give us great field position to start each possession.

- **Position:** ROLB
- **Substitution:** Reggie Torbor
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** This is about preference. Reggie Torbor is not a highly rated linebacker but by starting him opposite LaVar Arrington, we increase the speed of our linebackers.

- **Position:** CB 2
- **Substitution:** R.W. McQuarters
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** We cannot afford to have a slow starting cornerback. We bring in McQuarters to balance our secondary and help prevent teams from going deep on us when they see Webster out there.

Fantasy Outlook

- **Star:** Tiki Barber
- **Draft:** 1st
- **2006 Outlook:** Once you get past the big three fantasy running backs, you have to have Barber as the number 4. Last season Barber rushed for 1860 yards and scored 9 TDs.

- **Star:** Eli Manning
- **Draft:** 4th
- **2006 Outlook:** Is Eli ready to step up and become a big time fantasy quarterback in the Big Apple? If last season is any indication, then we say yes and so should you.

Star Players

Tiki Barber • Halfback (HB) #21

Showcase Plays for Barber

Weak-I-Normal



Double Counter

• One of the plays that really shows off Tiki Barber's agility and speed is the Double Counter. The play starts left, but at the handoff Barber reads the pulling left guard and fullback block. Follow the blocks closely and this play can turn into big yards

Shotgun-Normal Offset Wk



WR Over

• Tiki Barber is very useful in the passing game. He can outrun almost any linebacker. The WR Over shows how easy it is to get Tiki involved in the pass game. At the snap he heads upfield and then breaks inside running across the middle. The quarterback gets Tiki the ball as he cuts across the middle of the field.



Key Attributes

Awareness	94
Agility	94
Break Tackle	88
Speed	93

Many people may think Barber is not the key to the offense but this man is a leader by doing. Last season that meant taking 357 carries and racking up 1,860 rushing yards at age 30. Without the run threat ability that Barber provides for the Giants' offense, the team would not be as solid on offense.

Michael Strahan • Left End (LE) #92

Showcase Plays for Strahan

Quarter-Normal



Under Smoke

• Strahan is one of the best defensive ends in all of football and there are some key plays to use with him to take advantage of his skill. Versus run sweeps the Quarter-Normal Under Smoke lets Strahan play off the edge. Here Strahan has fought off the block and broken into the backfield to drop the running back for a loss.

Dime-Normal



Pierce Blitz

• When playing defense with the Giants, use Michael Strahan to throw off the timing of the pass game. This play is a very good blitz to use when you want to get high pressure on the QB from Strahan. At the snap of the ball, Strahan comes off looping around the edge and explodes upfield to destroy the quarterback.



Key Attributes

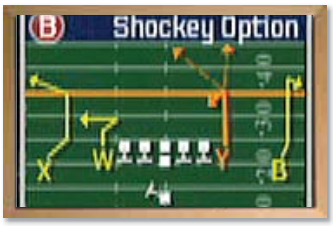
Strength	86
Awareness	96
Tackle	85
Speed	76

Dominating is one word that you can use to accurately describe Strahan's play on the field. He is no doubt one of the best defensive ends to ever play the game and will be viewed as such once his career is over. This does not mean he is close to being finished. Last season he still picked up 11.5 sacks, further cementing his name as one of the best ever.

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Key Offensive Plays

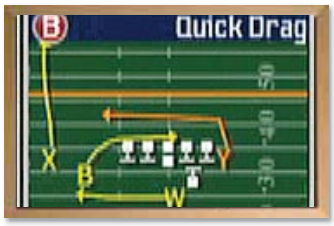
A Singleback-Big
1st & 2nd down



• Shockey Option
We need to get him into the gameplan early and keep going to him so that we can open up other areas in the offense. Shockey is shown here right after breaking off his option route to a hook and turning to make the catch.



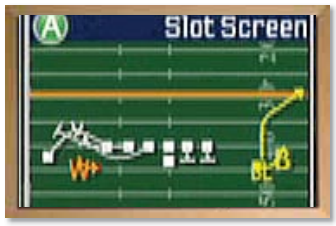
B Strong I-Twin WR
1st & 2nd down



• Quick Drag
We must get Plaxico Burress involved. He has the special combination of height and speed that can beat the defense deep. When we establish him as a deep threat early, then we can work the underneath routes with Shockey.



C Singleback-Empty 4WR
Any down



• Slot Screen
Sinorice Moss is a welcome addition who is small, quick, and explosive. His abilities make him perfect for screen plays. We show his explosiveness in this play as Moss takes the screen and turns the corner for a good gain.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Weak I-Normal	TE Option, TE Fade, Bunch, WR Option	**Singleback-Big Wing**	HB Counter, HB Blunt Dive HB Cutback, HB Slant 18
Shotgun-Normal Offset Wk	FL Curl, Slant Hook, HB Go, Short Attack	**I Form-Twin TE**	HB Lead, FB Dive Strong, HB Slam, HB Lead Toss

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Shaun O'Hara	84	85	53	84
C	Grey Ruegamer	80	96	44	72
FB	Jim Finn	74	73	65	75
HB	Tiki Barber	95	69	93	94
HB	Brandon Jacobs	79	82	86	65
HB	Chad Morton	73	58	92	59
HB	Derrick Ward	72	67	87	64
LG	David Diehl	82	87	54	72
LG	Rich Seubert	80	87	52	77
LT	Luke Petitgout	89	90	49	88
LT	Bob Whitfield	80	83	44	95
QB	Eli Manning	88	55	61	83
QB	Tim Hasselbeck	72	53	52	70
QB	Jared Lorenzen	63	65	64	43
RG	Chris Snee	89	91	55	77
RG	Julius Franklin	64	85	48	51
RT	Kareem McKenzie	89	95	51	86
RT	Lewis Kelly	78	88	51	74
TE	Jeremy Shockey	95	74	84	84
TE	Visanthe Shiancoe	68	65	74	55
WR	Plaxico Burress	90	70	92	81
WR	Amani Toomer	85	63	89	88
WR	Sinorice Moss	78	37	96	62
WR	Tim Carter	73	50	94	60
WR	David Tyree	71	54	87	65
WR	Willie Ponder	66	50	85	50

Coaching Profile

Tom Coughlin

- **Head Coaching Year:** 3rd
- **Experience:** Coughlin became the first head coach of the Jaguars on February 21, 1994.

Coughlin's 85 regular season victories place him 11th among current NFL head coaches. He is the only one of the 11 to have coached an expansion team.

Detailed Package Info

New York Giants

- **Formation:** Full House-Normal Wide
- **Package:** Spell HB
- **Play:** HB Dive
- **Advantage:** In this formation we like to add the size of Brandon Jacobs over Tiki. This gives us a monster backfield with Shockey, Finn, and Jacobs.

- **Formation:** Shotgun-Normal Offset Wk
- **Package:** TE Slot
- **Play:** FL Curl
- **Advantage:** Puts Shockey in the Slot while keeping a TE still on the right side of the line. Easy way to sneak a pass to Shockey and take advantage of the size mismatch.

- **Formation:** Quarter-Normal
- **Package:**Linebackers
- **Play:** Cover 2
- **Advantage:** Linebackers seem to jam the receivers longer than DBs so this package adds time for our pressure to get to the QB.

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Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

We're not paying our coaches very competitive salaries. Stadium maintenance costs are relatively low and easy on the bottom line. Let's try to keep food prices right where they are. We have room to increase ticket prices if we need to.

Team Salary: 81.0M
Cap Room: 105.5M
Key Rival: Philadelphia Eagles
NFL Icons: Michael Strahan
Philosophy:
- Offense: Establish Run
- Defense: Shut Down Runs

Prestige: Medium Low
Team Needs:
- Linebacker
- Offensive Line

Highest Paid Players:
- Eli Manning
- LavVar Arrington

Up and Coming Players:
- Sinorice Moss
- Mathias Kiwanuka

TEAM STRATEGY

Team Trivia

New York Giants Facts

Answers are on the following page.

1 Which coach led the Giants to the most victories during the 20th century?

2 Who scored the only Giants touchdown in Super Bowl XXXV, against the Baltimore Ravens?

Key Defensive Plays

A Nickel-Normal
base D



• Cover 3
The Giants have a great D-line anchored by defensive ends Michael Strahan and Osi Umenyiora. Cover 3 is a good base defense to use with the Giants to get a read on the offense. This is not a bend but don't break defense.



B Nickel-3-3-5
2nd, 3rd, 4th down



• Double X
The Double X lets them join the party and bring heat from around the edge with Carlos Emmons. We often get a sack when using this play because Emmons is on a delay blitz and the offense tends to overlook him.



C 4-3-Over
1st & 2nd down



• Fire Man
We use this play to get Strahan and Carlos Emmons around the edge. When the play starts they both fly around the edge. Once the QB sees Strahan coming free he turns, only to have his clock cleaned by Carlos Emmons.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
4-3-Normal	Engage Eight, Free Fire, Slant 1 OLB Fire	**4-3-Under**	Cover 1, 2 Man Under, Cover 1 Robber, 4 Deep DT Stunt
4-3-Over	Safety Blitz, LB Dogs, SS Blitz, Fire Man	**Nickel-3-3-5**	Man Lock Spy, 2 Deep Robber, Man Under, Double Outside

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Sam Madison	90	48	91	96
CB	R.W. McQuarters	81	45	90	82
CB	Corey Webster	80	64	87	70
CB	Curtis Deloatch	74	52	89	68
CB	Frank Walker	72	55	89	66
DT	Fred Robbins	80	88	54	75
DT	William Joseph	78	82	64	69
DT	Damane Duckett	74	84	60	64
DT	Barry Cofield	72	80	67	55
FS	Will Demps	86	66	85	85
FS	James Butler	71	59	88	53
LE	Michael Strahan	97	86	76	96
LE	Justin Tuck	75	66	75	46
LE	Adrian Awasom	73	77	72	55
LOLB	LaVar Arrington	90	78	87	73
LOLB	Reggie Torbor	78	67	82	70
LOLB	Eric Moore	59	67	75	49
MLB	Antonio Pierce	91	76	85	88
MLB	Chase Blackburn	61	68	73	58
RE	Osi Umenyiora	91	74	84	72
RE	Mathias Kiwanuka	78	72	78	46
ROLB	Carlos Emmons	88	74	77	89
ROLB	Brandon Short	80	76	77	72
ROLB	Gerris Wilkinson	74	73	80	57
SS	Gibril Wilson	87	67	89	70
SS	Quentin Harris	73	60	85	65

Special Teams

K	Jay Feely	87	39	55	75
P	Jeff Feagles	85	20	49	96

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: New York City, NY | **Starting Year:** 1925 | **League:** NFC

Franchise Beginnings

One of the NFL's original teams, the New York Football Giants were formed on August 1, 1925 by Tim Mara. He bought the franchise for $500 and added Football to the team name because he didn't want his team to be confused with the New York Giants baseball team that also played at the Polo Grounds. It took another $25,000 to keep the team running. Between 1927-1963 the New York Football Giants have been to the NFL Championship game 15 times, have earned four NFL titles, and have won two Super Bowls.

Notable Moments

• The "Sneakers Game"

The Giants defeated the Chicago Bears 30-13 at the Polo Grounds in icy weather in 1934. During half time, coach Steve Owen had the team switch their cleats with basketball shoes. This provided better traction and the game was nicknamed the "Sneakers Game."

• Super Bowl XXI

The Giants defeated the Denver Broncos 39-20 in Super Bowl XXI to win their first Super Bowl on January 25, 1987. Phil Simms was named MVP due to his spectacular 22-28, 268 yards, and 3 TD performance. This was the Giants' first NFL title since 1956.

Notable Figures



Al Messerschmidt/WireImage.com

Lawrence Taylor ('81-'93)

LT changed the way outside linebackers play, with his aggressive style earning him many accolades. He was the 1980 Rookie of the Year, earned the Giants sack record with 132.5, and was the 1986 NFL MVP and Defensive Player of the Year in 1981, 1982, and 1986. He also went to ten consecutive Pro Bowls and was named to the NFL's 75th Anniversary All-Time Team.

Frank Gifford ('52-'60, '62-'64)

Frank Gifford was the number one draft pick out of USC in 1952. His skills on both sides of the field helped him reach the NFL Championship game five times and become the NFL Player of the Year in 1956. He went to the Pro Bowl at three different positions (defensive back, halfback, and flanker)—the only player to do it. He was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1977.

The Mara Family ('25-Present)

Tim was the founder of the Giants and brought football to New York. Jack and Wellington took over and dedicated their lives to pro football.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• The 1986 Giants team began the tradition of **soaking the head coach** with a cooler of water or Gatorade near the end of a winning game.

• Before the 2004 season, the **last time** the Giants returned an opening kickoff for a TD in a regular-season game was Dec. 4, 1966—a 90-yard score by Clarence Childs at Cleveland.

• The Giants have played in **five** different stadiums:

Polo Grounds (1925-1955)
Yankee Stadium (1956-1973)
Yale Bowl (1973-1974)
Shea Stadium (1975)
Giants Stadium (1976-Present)

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:		
Phil Simms ('79-'93)		2,576
• Passing Yards:		
Phil Simms ('79-'93)		33,462
• Passing Touchdowns:		
Phil Simms ('79-'93)		199
• Receptions:		
Tiki Barber ('97-06)		528
• Receiving Yards:		
Frank Gifford ('52-'64)		87874
• Rushing Yards:		
Tiki Barber ('97-06)		8,787
• Career Points Leader:		
Pete Gogolak ('66-'74)		646

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:		
Lawrence Taylor ('81-'93)		132.5
• Interceptions:		
Emlen Tunnell ('48-'58)		74

Team Trivia

Answers

1 Owen coached the Giants 1931-1953 and totaled 153 wins. Parcells was second with 85.

2 In their 34-7 loss to the Ravens in Super Bowl XXXV, the Giants' only score came on a 97-yard kickoff return by Ron Dixon.

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JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS

Division: AFC South | **Stadium:** Alltel Stadium | **Type:** Open | **Capacity:** 73,000 | **Surface:** Turf



2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
12	4	0	361	296	6-2	6-2	9-3	3-1	4-2

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	87
Offense	87
Defense	88

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Team Rankings

Scoring	12th
Passing Offense	19th
Rushing Offense	10th
Passing Defense	7th
Rushing Defense	14th
Turnovers	15th

TEAM STRATEGY

Playing As: Jacksonville Jaguars

1. Go deep. When using the Jags, make sure to get Matt Jones in the vertical passing game. He's 6'5" with jumping ability, so it is pretty hard to defend against him.

2. Make sure not to forget Fred Taylor, as one of his runs could turn into an unforgettable moment.

3. The defense has two of the best D-tackles in the game. The Jags also have a great MLB in Mike Peterson.

Playing Against: Jacksonville Jaguars

1. The QB cannot run, so blitz Leftwich with coverage behind you to prevent the easy throw.

2. There is only one receiver that we must fear and that is Matt Jones at 6'5" with blazing speed. If these two are contained then we can focus on Fred Taylor and shut the offense down.

3. Versus the defense we can take advantage of the lack of real speed in the secondary. Also rolling the QB out can help because the two mammoth D-tackles are not that quick when pursuing the quarterback.

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• The Jags have a pretty good offense with a nice mix of young and upcoming players in the skill positions. Byron Leftwich is the man in charge, but running back Fred Taylor and the very promising young receiver Matt Jones help him out. In the off-season, the Jags got better on the O-line by adding Stockar McDougle and OT Mike Williams.

Weaknesses

• The Jags saw the end of the Jimmy Smith era this off-season. They now have no proven veteran leadership at the receiver position and will have to rely on the youth in this position to pull them through. Fred Taylor has also been going through things with management and it has led the Jags to draft running back Maurice Drew.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• Outright nasty comes to mind when talking about the Jaguars' defense. They are led by two dominant defensive tackles in Marcus Stroud and John Henderson (the guy that likes to get slapped before the game). The defense has a punishing mindset and hits anything moving. They added corner Brian Williams from the Vikings in the off-season.

Weaknesses

• There is no glaring weakness on the defense, but in all likelihood this unit will be tested this year, as they now play a tougher schedule filled with teams that have winning records. They also have to find a solid replacement to fill the hole left by linebacker Akin Ayodele.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Mike Williams	Bills	T	6'6"	360
FA	NA	Troy Edwards	Lions	WR	5'10"	195
FA	NA	Brian Williams	Vikings	CB	5'11"	207
Rookie	1	Marcedes Lewis	UCLA	TE	6'6"	262
Rookie	2	Maurice Drew-Jones	UCLA	RB	5'7"	206

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Byron Leftwich • Quarterback (QB) #7

Showcase Plays for Leftwich

Split Backs-Slot



2 Out

• Byron Leftwich has enjoyed success thus far in his young NFL career. Plays like the Split Backs-Slot 2 Out help prove that he is a solid quarterback by adding to his stats. When the play starts Leftwich looks over the field and spots a mismatch with the Flanker. He takes this as the best option and delivers the pass for a first down.

Weak I-Normal



Jones Option

• There are ways to pad a quarterback's stats and also get them into a nice rhythm. This plays gives us the ability to add to Leftwich's numbers with little to no risk. After going to our flanker in the previous play, Leftwich sees the Tight End open o and hits him for the easy yards down field.



Key Attributes

Speed	57
Awareness	83
Throw Power	97
Throw Accuracy	87

Year after year Leftwich proves that he is a true top tier quarterback. He led his team to a 12-4 record last year and the offense is a true problem for any defense when he is in and healthy. Leftwich is more of a pure passer and can make all the throws we need in *Madden*.

Fred Taylor • Running Back (HB) #28

Showcase Plays for Taylor

Singleback-4WR Spread



HB Sprint

• Fred Taylor is very effective running from the Singleback formations. One play that we have had continued success with while using Taylor is the HB Sprint. Taylor will follow the pulling right guard after the snap and follow him to daylight. Once Fred has an opening he hits the hole and picks up positive yards.

Split Backs-Pro



HB Inside

• One of the best running plays to feature Fred Taylor is the HB Inside from the Split Backs formation. Fred has the ability to create his own lane without the use of a lead blocker. This play benefits him because there are two backs in the backfield both on the same level. Fred gets the handoff and explodes into the defensive secondary.



Key Attributes

Speed	93
Agility	92
Awareness	87
Break Tackle	85

One of the best backs in the NFL and is capable of beating you for a touchdown any time he touches the ball. He is looking to improve on last year's performance as he put up a little less than 800 yards and only 3 touchdowns. Taylor has a trend of having 1200 or 1300 yard seasons after a down year, so this could be a great season.

Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

- **Position:** HB 2
- **Substitution:** Maurice Drew-Jones
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** This small HB reminds many people of Barry Sanders and because of his speed we want to bring him in as the backup HB. This allows us to bring him in whenever we use the HB Spell package.

- **Position:** TE
- **Substitution:** Marcedes Lewis
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** Lewis has the speed that we long for in the tight end position and with him working the seams, Matt Jones and Williams can get loose on the outside.

- **Position:** LOLB
- **Substitution:** Clint Ingram
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** This rookie is ready to play right now and his speed sets him apart from the rest of our outside linebackers. He can be a real asset to the team lining up next to Mike Peterson.

Fantasy Outlook

- **Star:** Fred Taylor
- **Draft:** 6th round
- **2006 Outlook:** The knock on Taylor is he just can't seem to stay healthy for a full season. If he were able to stay healthy, then he would be one of the top five fantasy backs in the draft.

- **Star:** Matt Jones
- **Draft:** 10th round
- **2006 Outlook:** Jones has the potential to put up solid numbers, but he's still a bit raw as a receiver. If you need a 4th receiver to fill a slot on your team's roster and he's available then grab him up.

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Coaching Profile

Jack Del Rio

- **Head Coaching Year:** 3rd
- **Experience:** Del Rio was the defensive coordinator for the Carolina Panthers in 2002.

Del Rio began his coaching career with the Saints in 1997 as the strength and conditioning coach. In 1999, he accepted a position with the Baltimore Ravens as their linebackers coach. After the 2001 season, he was named defensive coordinator of the Carolina Panthers.

TEAM STRATEGY

Detailed Package Info

Jacksonville Jaguars

- **Formation:** I Form-Normal
- **Package:** WR Swap
- **Play:** WR Corner
- **Advantage:** We like Matt Jones working the sideline and this package lets us keep him on the outside.

- **Formation:** Singleback-Normal Slot
- **Package:** HB Spell
- **Play:** HB Dive
- **Advantage:** Every back gets tired, so the spell back lets us give him a quick rest. We can also bring in the backup if he has a few things he can do better.

- **Formation:** Dime-3-2-6
- **Package:** 4th CB
- **Play:** DB Dogs 1
- **Advantage:** Subs our fourth corner in for our backup FS. We add speed here for blitzes and coverage.

Key Offensive Plays

A — Split Back-3WR
1st, 2nd, 3rd



• Slot Cross
Matt Jones is the go-to receiver for the Jags, so we get the ball to him on this play to make the defense respect his ability in the passing game. Jones runs a good square in route, and Leftwich puts the ball high so that Jones can go up for the catch.



B — Weak I-Normal
1st & 2nd



• HB Gut
Fred Taylor gets the handoff and explodes through the hole to the next level of the defense. When he collides with the defender he gives him a seven-yard ride downfield as Taylor churns out more yards.



C — Weak I-Twin WR
1st & 2nd



• Ernest Option
Matt Jones is really too big and fast to be played by a linebacker or DB when in the slot. Even when the defense brings pressure, Jones makes the important catch to make the defense pay for blitzing.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Strong I-3WR	PA Rollout, Curl Flats, Double Flares, WR Option	Singleback-Normal Slot	HB Draw, HB Dive, HB Slam, HB Stretch
Shotgun-2RB 3WR	Fk WR Scrn Wheel, HB Deep, WR Screen, PA Skinny Post	I Form-Normal	HB Slam, HB Stretch, HB Lead Toss, HB Counter

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

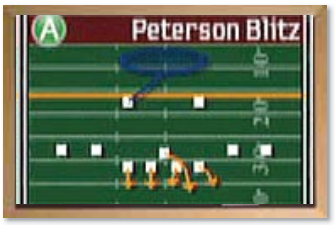
Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Brad Meester	89	86	55	87
C	Dennis Norman	64	83	48	59
FB	Greg Jones	84	78	85	74
FB	Derrick Wimbush	67	59	88	59
HB	Fred Taylor	89	72	93	87
HB	LaBrandon Toefield	76	68	87	62
HB	Maurice Drew-Jones	75	59	94	52
HB	Alvin Pearman	73	55	87	59
LG	Vince Manuwai	88	90	55	76
LG	Mike Compton	84	86	50	88
LG	Vince Manuwai	89	93	55	75
LG	Daniel Connolly	63	84	49	51
QB	Byron Leftwich	88	71	57	83
QB	David Garrard	81	65	70	71
QB	Quinn Gray	68	59	71	60

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
RG	Chris Naeole	90	95	52	85
RG	Derrick Fletcher	66	93	36	64
RT	Maurice Williams	88	93	49	86
RT	Mike Williams	85	97	52	75
TE	Kyle Brady	84	82	59	84
TE	Marcedes Lewis	80	73	77	62
TE	George Wrighster	74	68	76	68
WR	Matt Jones	84	68	93	65
WR	Ernest Wilford	82	66	85	76
WR	Reggie Williams	78	64	87	64
WR	Troy Edwards	77	48	88	72
WR	Cortez Hankton	64	50	88	52

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Key Defensive Plays

A Dime-Normal
Passing downs



• Peterson Blitz
Mike Peterson has great speed as a linebacker and can do anything we ask him to in the defense. In this play Peterson takes a looping angle through the "B" gap and charges in to sack the quarterback.



B 4-3-Under
1st & 2nd



• Sam Shoot Fire
We use this play to be aggressive up front but we still have two deep coverage in the secondary and man coverage around the field. There won't be too many open areas. Pat Thomas is our blitzing outside linebacker, and he sacks the QB on this play.



C Nickel-Strong
2nd & 3rd



•1 Robber
Mike Peterson steps up in this play to make that point. The offense tries to go to the back out of the backfield, sneaking up the sideline, but Peterson puts an end to that as he bats the ball down.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
4-3-Normal	Free Fire, OLB Fire Man, Zip Shoot Gut, Edge Sting	**Nickel-Normal**	9 Velcro, 3 Man Under, Quarter Half, Quarters Safe
Nickel-Normal	CB Blitz, Silver Shoot Pinch, Over Storm Brave, Under Smoke	**Dime 3-2-6**	2 Man Under, Cover 1 LB Spy, Prevent, Cover 4

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Rashean Mathis	92	65	94	77
CB	Brian Williams	87	62	88	82
CB	Terry Cousin	78	51	88	80
CB	Scott Starks	73	46	92	60
CB	Dee Webb	70	45	91	45
CB	David Richardson	66	61	89	50
DT	Marcus Stroud	97	94	66	80
DT	John Henderson	94	95	62	81
DT	Rob Meier	79	80	62	72
DT	Anthony Maddox	66	82	67	50
FS	Deon Grant	87	57	89	75
FS	Nick Sorensen	67	59	83	69
LE	Reggie Hayward	89	78	78	77
LE	Marcellus Wiley	80	81	67	85
LOLB	Clint Ingram	78	68	84	63
LOLB	Pat Thomas	73	72	78	66
MLB	Mike Peterson	93	72	85	91
MLB	Tony Gilbert	70	75	70	65
RE	Paul Spicer	81	82	66	76
RE	Bobby McCray	74	70	76	58
ROLB	Daryl Smith	84	74	79	75
ROLB	Nick Greisen	79	77	73	77
ROLB	Jorge Cordova	73	74	76	59
SS	Donovin Darius	93	75	88	86
SS	Gerald Sensabaugh	75	62	87	62

Special Teams

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
K	Josh Scobee	76	22	56	64
P	Chris Hanson	86	39	51	74

Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

We should think about using some of the cap room we've got. Our concession prices are right in line with the rest of the league. Our ticket prices are right where they should be. Merchandise prices are right where they should be.

Team Salary: 80.1M
Cap Room: 25.3 M
Key Rival: Tennessee Titans
NFL Icons:
- Fred Taylor

Philosophy:
- Offense: Establish Run
- Defense: Shut Down Runs

Prestige: Medium Low
Team Needs:
- Linebacker
- Wide Receiver

Highest Paid Players:
- John Henderson
- Brian Williams

Up and Coming Players:
- Maurice Drew-Jones
- Marcedes Lewis

Team Trivia

Jacksonville Jaguars Facts

Answers are on the following page.

1 In 1996, the Jaguars upset which AFC team in the divisional playoffs to meet the Patriots in the championship game?

2 Which two players did the Jaguars cut in 1996, who became superstars on the Packers?[

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Jacksonville, FL | **Starting Year:** 1955 | **League:** AFC

Franchise Beginnings

When a partnership led by current team chairman and CEO Wayne Weaver made a bid to land an NFL team in Jacksonville, the city was considered a long shot to win. But win they did, and ever since the Jaguars joined the NFL as its 30th team in 1995, the franchise has recorded major success considering its short history. The Jaguars qualified for the playoffs in just its second season, and reached the AFC championship game in 1996 and 1999.

Notable Moments

• Wild Card Round

In December 1998, the Jaguars won the AFC Central Division and became the first NFL expansion team to make the playoffs three times in its first four seasons of play. In the Wild Card Round, they won their very first playoff game at home against the New England Patriots 25-10.

• Last Playoff Win

The Jaguars' last playoff win came January 15, 2000, as the team crushed the Miami Dolphins 62-7. Jacksonville's 62 points and 55-point margin of victory were the second highest in NFL postseason history. It was also the final game for Dolphins quarterback Dan Marino.

Notable Figures



Al Messerschmidt/WireImage.com

Tom Coughlin ('95-'02)

Coughlin was the first coach of the Jacksonville Jaguars and guided the team for its first eight seasons. Under Coughlin, the Jaguars were the most successful expansion team in NFL history, compiling a 68-60 regular season record and making the playoffs in four straight years from 1996-1999.

Jimmy Smith ('95-'05)

The team's most successful wide receiver ever has played in 155 games—a team record. A member of the original franchise, Smith has amassed 11,264 yards and 61 touchdowns from 1995 through 2004. He currently holds most of the team's career receiving records.

Wayne Weaver ('93-'05)

As the chairman and CEO of the Jacksonville Jaguars, Weaver has been the head of one the most successful expansion franchises in league history, with the team's four playoff appearances and two division title games in its first five years. Weaver is also a member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame Board of Trustees.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• In 1995, the Jaguars became the **first expansion team ever** to finish with a .500 record (4-4) in its division.

• On August 18, 1995, the Jacksonville Jaguars became the first expansion team in all of sports history to play its **first home game** in its debut season in a **new stadium** or **arena**.

• The team's mascot is **Jaxson de Ville**. He is a bright yellow jaguar with blue spots, and his jersey number is #00.

• **Florida Governor Jeb Bush** was one of the original partners of Touchdown Jacksonville!, Ltd., which brought an NFL football franchise to the city.

• The Jacksonville Jaguars Foundation was **established in 1995**, when the franchise deal was first announced

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:	
Mark Brunell ('95-'03)	**2,184**
• Passing Yards:	
Mark Brunell ('95-'03)	**25,698**
• Passing Touchdowns:	
Mark Brunell ('95-'03)	**144**
• Receptions:	
Jimmy Smith ('95-'06)	**862**
• Receiving Yards:	
Jimmy Smith ('95-'06)	**12,287**
• Receiving Touchdowns:	
Jimmy Smith ('95-'06)	**67**
• Rushing Yards:	
Fred Taylor ('98-'06)	**8,367**
• Rushing Touchdowns:	
Fred Taylor ('98-'06)	**51**
• Career Points Leader:	
• Mike Holllis ('95-'01)	**????**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:	
Tony Brackens ('96-'04)	**55.0**
• Interceptions:	
Aaron Beasley ('96-'01)	**789**

Team Trivia

Answers

1 The Jaguars upset the 13-3 Denver Broncos, only to lose in the AFC championship game to New England.)

2 Desmond Howard & Andre Rison.

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NEW YORK JETS

Division: AFC East | **Stadium:** Giants Stadium | **Type:** Open | **Capacity:** 80,062 | **Surface:** Turf

2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
4	12	0	240	355	4-4	0-8	3-9	1-3	2-4

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	85
Offense	85
Defense	84

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Team Rankings

Scoring	29th
Passing Offense	28th
Rushing Offense	31st
Passing Defense	2nd
Rushing Defense	29th
Turnovers	17th

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• The Jets have seen firsthand the success Bill Parcells brought to the organization and what he planned to leave in place in Bill Belichick. They bring in a disciple of both Parcells and Belichick in new head coach Eric Mangini. They also drafted the best O-lineman in this year's draft in D'Brickashaw Ferguson.

Weaknesses

• Who is going to play QB, Chad Pennington or Patrick Ramsey? What is the offense going to look like and how will these quarterbacks work in it? It's enough to give you a migraine. Lastly, does Curtis Martin still have the legs to run from father time? He has done a great job so far, but in that position, how much longer can his body hold up?

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• The new coach came in and brought some quality free agent defenders with him. Kimo von Oelhoffen comes in to help strengthen the D-line. CB Andre Dyson from the Seahawks comes in with Super Bowl experience and hunger to get that first chip. Bring these additions to a star like Jonathan Vilma and you have great talent at every level of the defense.

Weaknesses

• Ty Law's not back this season, and that talent will be missed; it's Andre Dyson's responsibility to make sure it's not an issue. The defense also took a hit by losing DE John Abraham. The Jets are hoping that Shaun Ellis can rebound from a slumping 2005 season where he only registered 2.5 sacks. He has to be a major factor this year now that Abraham is gone.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Tim Dwight	Patriots	WR	5'8"	180
FA	NA	Kimo von Oelhoffen	Steelers	DT	6'4"	299
FA	NA	Andre Dyson	Seahawks	CB	5'10"	183
Rookie	1	D'Brickashaw Ferguson	Virginia	T	6'6"	313
Rookie	1	Nick Mangold	Ohio State	C	6'4"	299



Playing As: New York Jets

1. When using this team, make sure to make the defense respect the speed and size of the receivers.

2. Justin McCareins and Laveranues Coles are two very different receivers and each presents a unique problem for the defense.

3. Use Vilma to disturb any drags or routes to the middle as well as in attacking the run. This will help the rest of the defense.

Playing Against: New York Jets

1. Attack the Jets' offense by taking away the pass options, Coles and McCareins, and then make them beat you with the run.

2. Curtis Martin is good but if he is the only option, he's not going to be able to get it done.

3. Versus their defense, attack the small corners and try to spread the defense out to take away from their strength at linebacker.

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Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

- **Position:** HB 2
- **Substitution:** Derrick Blaylock
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** Blaylock was Priest Holmes's backup for years and now comes to the Jets. We put him in as the number-two HB because of his speed. We can use him as a change of pace back when Martin needs a rest.

- **Position:** KR/PR
- **Substitution:** Tim Dwight
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** By adding Tim Dwight to the return game we also save Justin Miller from any freak accidents and keep him fresh to play opposing receivers.

- **Position:** CB 1
- **Substitution:** Andre Dyson
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** There is no substitute for speed when it comes to the cornerback position. Dyson makes our starting corners extremely fast and we now can run with any receiver in the game.

Fantasy Outlook

- **Star:** Laveranues Coles
- **Draft:** 8th round
- **2006 Outlook:** If Chad Pennington can regain his form of old, Coles will put up some decent numbers.

- **Star:** Curtis Martin
- **Draft:** 9th round
- **2006 Outlook:** One of the greatest running backs in NFL history is showing signs of his age and running out of gas. Martin may rush for 1,000 yards this season, but any more than that will be on fumes.

Star Players

Curtis Martin • Running Back (RB) #28

Showcase Plays for Martin

Strong I-Twin TE



HB Stretch

• The HB Stretch from the Strong I-Twin TE is a great play that shares the name with other Stretch plays but works much better. Curtis Martin proves this when he is featured in this play. When the play starts, the TE and FB create a lane for Curtis to run through and constantly yield good yards.

Weak I-H Pro



HB Draw

• The HB Draw is a great play to use with Curtis Martin. This play uses his strength and agility to beat the defense over and over again. At the snap, the play looks like a pass but then the ball is in Martin's hands. His agility lets him get through the line and into the second level of the defense right away.



Key Attributes

Acceleration	86
Agility	84
Break Tackle	86
Speed	87

Curtis continues to be the workhorse of the Jets' offense. Martin is the complete package, possessing the toughness to run inside, the ability to get outside, and hands like a receiver. It's no wonder he has been one of the better backs year after year.

Jonathan Vilma • Linebacker (MLB) #51

Showcase Plays for Vilma

3-4 Normal



Zone Man Blitz

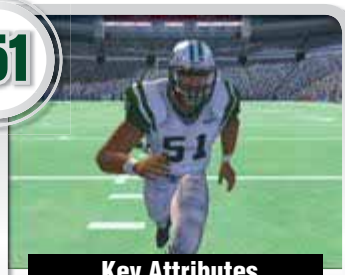
• Jonathan Vilma is a force on the field when defending the run. The Zone Man Blitz gives Vilma a chance to make a play behind the line. Once the offense hikes the ball, Vilma smells run and takes off through the "A" gap. Once through the "A" gap it's Vilma versus the running back and we know who wins that matchup.

Dime-Normal



Quarter Zone

• Vilma is also very good in pass defense and he shows it in the Dime-Normal Quarter Zone. From his middle linebacker position he reads the play from the hike and sees the FB running a quick route. Vilma attacks the fullback and drops him where he stands for no gain.



Key Attributes

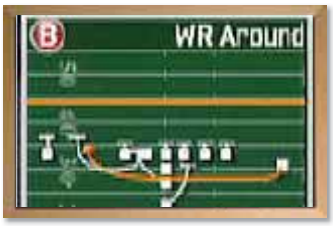
Speed	85
Strength	69
Awareness	88
Tackling	93

Ever since his first step on the field Vilma has wanted to live up to the mystique of the linebackers that the University of Miami produces. Ray Lewis is still one of, if not the best, but Jonathan Vilma is quickly rising to the top levels of that list. His speed and aggression to the ball make him a threat to any offense.

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Key Offensive Plays

A	I Form-Normal
1st play or between the 40s	



• WR Around
Laveranues Coles can do many things in the offense and we start things off with a trick play. We can run the WR Around as designed, but after Coles gets the handoff, we change direction and he picks up nine yards on the play.



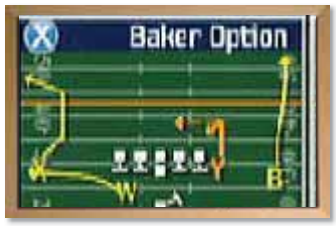
B	Shotgun-Slot Strong
—	



• McCareins Option
We have a lot of routes to the right and McCareins alone on the left. McCareins's height makes him more of a threat on option routes, and in this play he breaks off his route to a post and we hit him as he goes across the middle.



C	Weak I-Normal
—	



• Baker Option
Our tight end Chris Baker uses the option route in this play to beat the linebacker with a hook or crossing route. He chooses the cross and we hit him for a nice gain over the middle.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Singleback-Base Flex	Flood, Flanker Curl, Criss Cross, WR In	**Strong I-Normal Flex**	Off Tackle, HB Dive Weak, FB DIve, Off Tackle
Shotgun-4WR	Jets Cross, Slot Flags, Slants Middle, Slot Comebacks	**Singleback-Big Wing**	HB Blunt Dive, HB Power, HB Cutback, HB DIve

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Trey Teague	86	84	56	84
C	Nick Mangold	83	89	63	62
FB	B.J. Askew	75	67	85	60
HB	Curtis Martin	89	76	87	97
HB	Cedric Houston	77	73	85	64
HB	Derrick Blaylock	76	62	93	72
HB	Leon Washington	75	65	91	62
LG	Pete Kendall	88	87	52	90
LG	Steve Morley	64	84	45	50
LT	Brickashaw Ferguson	85	88	65	72
LT	Anthony Clement	78	92	49	75
QB	Chad Pennington	85	47	56	88
QB	Patrick Ramsey	77	59	55	75
QB	Kellen Clemens	74	56	66	57
QB	Brooks Bollinger	73	55	65	65

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
RG	Brandon Moore	86	89	58	77
RG	Isaac Snell	68	85	56	61
RT	Adrian Jones	79	82	62	71
RT	Marko Cavka	59	88	48	57
TE	Doug Jolley	80	64	82	77
TE	Chris Baker	79	65	77	68
TE	Joel Dreessen	70	70	67	63
WR	Laveranues Coles	88	52	98	85
WR	Justin McCareins	80	65	90	74
WR	Jerricho Cotchery	75	54	87	69
WR	Tim Dwight	73	49	90	70
WR	Brad Smith	72	62	89	45
WR	Dante Ridgeway	69	50	86	50

Coaching Profile

Eric Mangini

- **Head Coaching Year:** 1st
- **Experience:** Joins the Jets following six seasons with the New England Patriots. Last year he served as defensive coordinator following the head coaching appointment of Romeo Crennel.

Mangini, a coaching veteran of 14 seasons, will be entering his 12th season in the NFL and his first as a head coach, and becomes the second youngest head coach in NFL history.

Detailed Package Info

New York Jets

- **Formation:** Strong I-Normal Flex
- **Package:** Three WR
- **Play:** Inside Hook
- **Advantage:** Takes out our TE and adds another receiver on the field. Use this set to show run with the intent to pass.

- **Formation:** Weak I-H Twins
- **Package:** Cross Under
- **Play:** WR Swap
- **Advantage:** This package allows us to keep our number-one receiver on the outside instead of him playing the slot in the Twin formation.

- **Formation:** Nickel-1-5-5-Prowl
- **Package:** FS Nickel
- **Play:** 2 Man Under
- **Advantage:** Instead of having a linebacker man up against an HB, this package allows us to put our FS in the Nickel position and play any threat out of the backfield.

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Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

Merchandise sales and prices are very close to the league average. We've got plenty of room under the cap to make an important hire. We're ahead of the curve on stadium maintenance. Let's try to keep the food prices right where they are.

Team Salary: 75.3M
Cap Room: 30.1M
Key Rival: Miami Dolphins
NFL Icons:
- Curtis Martin

Team Morale: Good
Philosophy:
- Offense: Ball Control
- Defense: Force the Pass

Prestige: Low
Team Needs:
- Running Back
- Defensive Line

Highest Paid Players:
- Chad Pennington
- Dewayne Robertson

Up and Coming Players:
- Justin Miller
- D'Brickashaw Ferguson

Team Trivia

New York Jets Facts

Answers are on the following page.

1 The Jets were one of 26 teams who could have, but did not draft Dan Marino in 1983. Which player did the Jets pick instead?

2 Who set a Jets record by passing for 4,007 yards in one season?

Key Defensive Plays

A 3-4 Normal

—



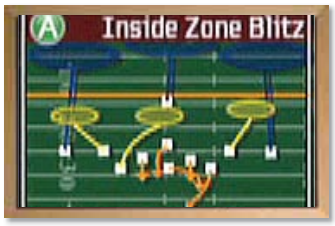
• Pinch

The Pinch lets us set the tempo for the day. Both Bryan Thomas and Victor Hobson blitz from the outside while inside backer Eric Barton blitzes the LG/LT gap. Thomas gets around the edge clean and hurries the QB into a throw into the dirt.



B Nickel-1-5-5

—



• Inside Zone Blitz

The Inside Zone Blitz lets us get middle linebacker Jonathan Vilma involved in the blitz game, and whenever his number is called he performs. At the snap Vilma takes a side step and then blasts through the "A" gap to sack the quarterback.



C Nicel-3-3-5

Pass downs



• 3 Deep

We don't worry about the lack of pressure on this play; we are more concerned with making sure the O gets off the field. They try a deep pass for the first down but we have too many defenders in the area and swat the ball down.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
3-4-Over	Cross Fire Chuck, Sting Pinch, Weak Blitz, Engage Eight	**3-4-Normal**	Cover 3, Cover 2, Drop Zone, Cover 4
Nickel-3-3-5	Overload Fire, CB Dogs Blitz, Monster Blitz, LB Ram Dogs	**Nickel-Normal**	Cover 2, Flat Four, Under Strong, Cover 1

2005–06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	David Barrett	87	63	87	84
CB	Andre Dyson	84	44	94	75
CB	Justin Miller	84	58	95	65
CB	Derrick Strait	76	60	87	65
CB	Ray Mickens	75	51	90	74
DT	Dewayne Robertson	83	86	64	67
DT	Sione Pouha	72	87	62	50
DT	Matt McChesney	61	78	55	53
FS	Erik Coleman	86	54	87	78
FS	Rashad Washington	72	63	84	58
LE	Shaun Ellis	93	89	70	84
LE	Monsanto Pope	80	83	62	72
LOLB	Victor Hobson	82	79	75	76
LOLB	Matt Chatham	69	71	69	70
MLB	Jonathan Vilma	92	69	85	88

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
MLB	Eric Barton	86	75	78	84
MLB	Brad Kassell	85	72	72	87
MLB	Anthony Schlegel	74	82	70	66
RE	Kimo von Oelhoffen	84	87	64	87
RE	Trevor Johnson	68	67	73	49
ROLB	Bryan Thomas	72	77	76	67
ROLB	Darrell McClover	65	60	86	50
SS	Kerry Rhodes	78	65	87	66
SS	Andre Maddox	70	66	87	51

Special Teams

K	Mike Nugent	81	31	49	61
P	Ben Graham	82	50	64	55

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: New York City, NY | **Starting Year:** 1960 | **League:** AFC

Franchise Beginnings

The New York Jets were originally known as the Titans when the franchise became a part of the American Football League in 1960. The name change took place in 1963, and the team's fortunes surged in 1965 with the arrival of quarterback Joe Namath. In Super Bowl III, the Jets stunned the nation with a 16-7 victory over the overwhelmingly favored Baltimore Colts. The team returned to the playoffs five times between 1981 through 1991 and won its first AFC East crown in 1998.

Notable Moments

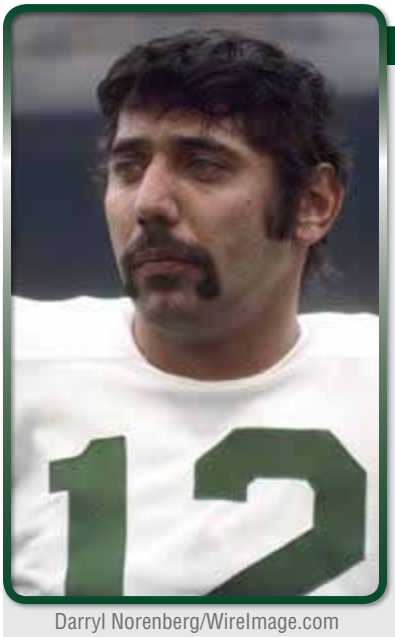
• Super Bowl III

On January 12, 1969, the New York Jets pulled off an incredible upset to give the team its first Super Bowl title, beating the Baltimore Colts 16-7. It made a legend of game MVP quarterback Joe Namath, who had guaranteed a Jets victory just days before.

• Heidi and the Jets

On November 17, 1968, New York had a 32-29 lead against the Oakland Raiders with a minute left. The network airing the game decided to pre-empt the finish with the movie "Heidi." TV viewers were outraged because the Raiders came back to win 43-32.

Notable Figures



Darryl Norenberg/WireImage.com

Joe Namath ('65-'76)

Namath is best known for orchestrating the Jets' 16-7 upset of the Colts in Super Bowl III. In 1967, Namath became the first quarterback to pass for more than 4,000 yards in one season, and in his career completed 1,886 passes for 27,663 yards and 173 touchdowns. He joined the Hall of Fame in 1985.

Don Maynard ('60-'72)

Maynard was the first player signed to the New York Titans franchise in 1960 and became a favorite passing target for Namath. Upon his retirement after the 1973 season, he wound up with 633 catches for 11,834 yards—both of which were pro records at that time. Maynard joined the Hall of Fame in 1987.

Weeb Ewbank ('63-'73)

As coach for the Baltimore Colts and then the Jets (the latter for 11 seasons), Ewbank is the only coach to lead teams from both the National and American football leagues to world championships: the Colts in 1958 and 1959, and the Jets in 1968. Ewbank was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1978.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• Before moving to the team's current home (Giants Stadium at the Meadowlands), the Jets played home games at **Shea Stadium**.

• It took **seven seasons** before the Jets were able to post their first **winning** record: 8-5-1 in 1967.

• Jets punter Steve O'Neal's **98-yard punt** against the Denver Broncos on September 21, 1969 is an NFL record.

• The New York Jets have retired three numbers: **#12** (Joe Namath), **#13** (Don Maynard), and **#73** (Joe Klecko).

• The **unofficial leader** of the fans at Jets home games is "Fireman Ed" Anzalone. He uses arm motions to stir up crowd noise, then signals for absolute quiet.

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:	
Joe Namath ('65-'76)	**1,836**
• Passing Yards:	
Joe Namath ('65-'76)	**27,057**
• Passing Touchdowns:	
Joe Namath ('65-'76)	**170**
• Receptions:	
Don Maynard ('60-'72)	**627**
• Receiving Yards:	
Don Maynard ('60-'72)	**11,732**
• Receiving Touchdowns:	
Don Maynard ('60-'72)	**88**
• Rushing Yards:	
Curtis Martin ('98-'06)	**10,302**
• Rushing Touchdowns:	
Curtis Martin ('98-'06)	**58**
• Career Points Leader:	
• Pat Leahy ('74-'91)	**1,470**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:	
Mark Gastineau ('79-'88)	**107.5**
• Interceptions:	
Bill Baird ('63-'69)	**34**

Team Trivia

Answers

❶ Ken O'Brien was one of four quarterbacks drafted before Marino that year. The others were John Elway, Todd Blackledge, and Tony Eason.

❷ Joe Namath accomplished this in 1967.

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DETROIT LIONS

Division: NFC North | **Stadium:** Ford Field | **Type:** Dome | **Capacity:** 65,000 | **Surface:** Turf



2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
5	11	0	254	345	3-5	2-6	2-2	3-9	1-5

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	84
Offense	85
Defense	85

Team Rankings

Scoring	28th
Passing Offense	26th
Rushing Offense	26th
Passing Defense	13th
Rushing Defense	24th
Turnovers	9th

TEAM STRATEGY

Playing As: Detroit Lions

1. Get the ball to Roy Williams as often as you can. He is the team's best playmaker and needs to be the featured guy.
2. Run the ball behind right guard Damien Woody. He's the team's best run blocker.
2. Fernando Bryant may need some help in coverage. Call double teams on his side of the field.

Playing Against: Detroit Lions

1. Put pressure on the Lions quarterback to force him into throwing the ball into tight coverage.
2. Double team Roy Williams on obvious passing situations and force the quarterback to throw elsewhere.
3. Avoid throwing the ball toward cornerback Dre' Bly as much as possible.

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• Detroit has the skill players on offense to be explosive with Kevin Jones, Roy Williams, Mike Williams, and Charles Rogers. Now it's just a matter of getting all that talent on the same page. If Martz can implement the same type of system in the Motor City that he did at St. Louis, the Lions are going to be downright scary on offense.

Weaknesses

• Last year, the QB position just didn't get the job done. Gone from last year is starter Joey Harrington and backup Jeff Garcia. In are Jon Kitna, Josh McCown, and Shaun King. As of now, Kitna will be the starter, while McCown and King are backups. If one of them steps up, the team's most obvious weakness could become the team's biggest strength.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• In 2005 Shaun Rogers made the Pro Bowl by posting 5.5 sacks and 39 solo tackles. He has the bulk to plug up the inside run game and the explosiveness to collapse the pocket to put pressure on the quarterback. Dre' Bly also made the Pro Bowl by picking off 6 passes. Kenoy Kennedy led the Lions with 98 tackles and also contributed 5 sacks.

Weaknesses

• The Lions linebackers did not perform up to standard for most of the 2005 season. Injury problems were the main factor for the lack of productivity and that's why Detroit drafted linebacker Ernie Simms in the first round. If he can be a playmaker like he was in college, then the Lions will see an improvement in run and pass defense.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Idrees Bashir	Panthers	S	6'2"	198
FA	NA	Jon Kitna	Bengals	QB	6'2"	225
FA	NA	Josh McCown	Cardinals	QB	6'4"	213
Rookie	1	Ernie Sims	Florida St.	LB	6'0"	220
Rookie	2	Daniel Bullocks	Nebraska	S	6'1"	210

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Roy Williams • Wide Receiver (WR) #11

Showcase Plays for Williams

Weak-3WR



Short Flood

• This play has Williams running the post over the middle. This pass route is most effective against Cover 2 coverage. If the two safeties split out wide, use the precision pass to throw the ball high to Williams so that he can use his height to snag the ball out of the air. If Williams is not open, look to hit the running back in the flat.

Singleback-Normal



Slot Slants

• The Singleback-Normal Slot Slants allows Williams to shield the ball from defenders trying to make a play. His slant route is effective against bump-n-run man coverage. As soon as he breaks the jam, throw him a high bullet. Be sure to look for defenders dropping back in hook zones. Sometimes they will be in position to pick off the pass.



Key Attributes

Acceleration	74
Awareness	74
Catching	89
Speed	93

At 6'2" and 212 pounds Roy Williams can use his body to prevent defensive backs from getting the ball. He has great leaping ability and can out jump defenders to make the catch. The only thing that has been holding Williams back from becoming an elite receiver is a quarterback who can get him the ball on time and on target.

Dre' Bly • Cornerback (CB) #32

Showcase Plays for Bly

4-3-Normal



Cover 2

• The 4-3-Normal Cover 2 puts Dre' Bly in the perfect position to pick off the pass with his big play ability if the quarterback tries to throw to a receiver in the flat. In the screen shot, we show the quarterback throwing to the tight end, but Bly is about to pick off the pass and take the rock the other way for a score.

Quarter Normal



Ram Buck 1 Deep

• Bly is one of the best cover corners in the game. This means you can leave him alone on an island to cover the opposing team's top receiver. Even if the receiver gets a step on him; he has the speed and acceleration to recover. In this screen shot, Bly is able to knock the pass away from the receiver and the ball falls harmlessly to the turf.



Key Attributes

Awareness	86
Acceleration	96
Catching	82
Speed	93

Dre' Bly uses his ball skills and athleticism to make up for his lack of height. Bly is willing to take chances on picking off the pass because he has a gambler's mentality. Often he comes up winning rather than losing. In 2005, he came up with six interceptions, which placed him third among NFC defensive backs.

Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

• **Position:** WR
• **Substitution:** Mike Williams
• **When:** Global
• **Advantage:** Mike Williams did not have the big rookie season like he wanted. Move him up to the number-two receiver on the depth chart and move Charles Rogers up to number three.

• **Position:** LG
• **Substitution:** Rex Tucker
• **When:** Global
• **Advantage:** Anyway you slice it, Rex Tucker is a better left guard than default starter Rick DeMulling. If you want DeMulling starting somewhere on the offensive line, move him out to right tackle. He is better pass blocker than Kelly Butler.

• **Position:** LE
• **Substitution:** Kalimba Edwards
• **When:** Global
• **Advantage:** Left ends tend to get more sacks than right ends. Kalimba Edwards has the speed to get it done and will be more a effective pass rusher than default starter Cory Redding.

Fantasy Outlook

• **Star:** Roy Williams
• **Draft:** 8th round
• **2005 Outlook:** With a new coaching staff and QB, Williams might be a risky pick in the earlier part of a draft. If he is around latter on, grab him and watch how the situation pans out.

• **Star:** Kevin Jones
• **Draft:** 5th round
• **2005 Outlook:** Has potential to put up 1,200 yards and 10 touchdowns this season. To accomplish this, he will need strong play from whoever starts at quarterback.

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Coaching Profile

Rod Marinelli

- **Head Coaching Year:** 1st
- **Experience:** Assistant head coach under Jon Gruden for the last four years. Has 20 years of college coaching experience.

In his time with the Buccaneers, his coaching knowledge helped win a Super Bowl. In 6 of the 10 seasons he coached the defensive line, the unit ranked number-one in total sacks.

Detailed Package Info

Detroit Lions

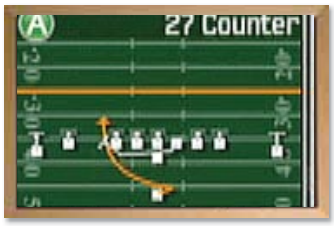
- **Formation:** Singleback-Trips Bunch WR Smash
- **Package:** Slot Strong
- **Play:** WR Smash
- **Advantage:** Roy Williams is the Lions' top playmaker on offense. This package puts him in the slot running a corner route.

- **Formation:** Singleback-Trips Bunch
- **Package:** Big
- **Play:** HB Pitch
- **Advantage:** This adds an extra tight end to help open running lanes for Kevin Jones to break through.

- **Formation:** Quarter-Normal
- **Package:** Linebackers
- **Play:** Under Smoke
- **Advantage:** This puts all three Lions linebackers on the field and sends them on a blitz. If the offense tries to run the ball, they will find it difficult.

Key Offensive Plays

A Singleback-Normal
1st, 2nd and short yardage

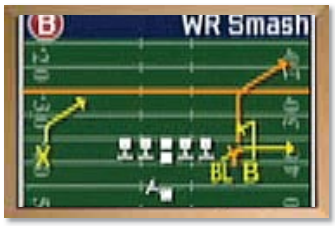


• 27 Counter

This play is designed to get the defense going in one direction, while the running back goes in the other. Right guard Kelly Butler pulls to the left side and lead blocks for Kevin Jones. Look to go around the outside of the left tackle for positive yardage.



B Singleback-Trips Bunch
1st & 2nd using pass

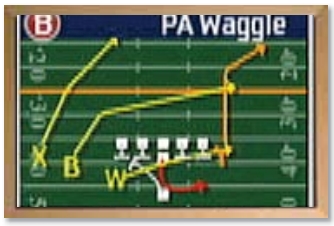


• WR Smash

Mike Williams lines up in the slot and runs a corner route. Once the ball is snapped, read to see what the strong safety does. If he splits out wide, the coverage is Cover 2. Lead the pass to the outside where only Williams can go get it.



C Weak I-H Twins
Any down/distance with pass



• PA Waggle

Tight end Marcus Pollard doesn't have the speed he had, but he's still a threat. This play has him running a corner route. If he is matched with a safety, he can use his height to his advantage. Once he makes his break to the corner, throw the ball high in the air.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Singleback-Normal Slot	TE Corner, Deep Corners, Slants, WR Drag	**I Form-Twin TE**	HB Counter Strg, HB Lead Dive, HB Sweep, HB Slam
Shotgun 4WR	Slot Comebacks, Smash Corners, Slot Drag, WR Post	**Singleback-Base Flex**	HB Dive, HB Draw, Counter Weak, HB Pitch

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Dominic Raiola	87	83	60	84
C	Brock Gutierrez	68	83	50	72
FB	Cory Schlesinger	86	76	70	75
HB	Kevin Jones	87	73	91	76
HB	Shawn Bryson	76	64	89	70
HB	Brian Calhoun	75	66	95	52
HB	Artose Pinner	72	66	86	66
LG	Rex Tucker	88	89	56	86
LG	Rick DeMulling	84	89	53	78
LT	Jeff Backus	88	90	53	86
LT	Jonathan Scott	70	85	52	62
QB	Jon Kitna	83	60	54	84
QB	Josh McCown	80	59	73	73
QB	Dan Orlovsky	73	58	55	65
RG	Damien Woody	93	93	54	87
RG	Barry Stokes	79	90	50	80
RT	Kelly Butler	76	87	52	67
RT	Victor Rogers	65	87	45	61
TE	Marcus Pollard	84	70	74	82
TE	Dan Campbell	81	73	68	76
TE	Casey Fitzsimmons	70	63	72	69
WR	Roy Williams	88	64	93	74
WR	Mike Williams	81	72	85	63
WR	Corey Bradford	79	49	94	74
WR	Charles Rogers	78	59	92	65
WR	Eddie Drummond	73	43	91	68
WR	Scottie Vines	73	56	91	60

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Key Defensive Plays

A 4-3-Normal Over

1st & 2nd get the QB



• Zone Blitz

The objective of the zone blitz is to confuse the offensive linemen and QB. This has linebackers Teddy Lehman and Ernie Sims blitzing. Right end James Hall drops into the flat. If the QB doesn't read Hall, there is a chance he will throw it right to him.



B Nickel-3-3-5

3rd and long yardage pass



• CB Dogs Blitz

This defense is very effective against quarterbacks who like to roll out. It also can be an effective defense to call against the play action pass because the cornerbacks normally do not bite on the play fake.



C Dime-3-2-6

3rd and long yardage pass



• Cover 4

If your opponent likes to air the ball out deep, try calling the Dime-3-2-6 Cover 4 defense. This defense drops four defensive backs deep to take away the long ball. The pass coverage underneath is decent, but the flats are not covered.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
4-3-Over	Engage Eight, Zone Blitz, Fire Man, SS Blitz	**4-3-Under**	2 Man Under, Double X, Cover 3, LB Contain
Dime-Normal	Engage Eight, MLB Blitz, DB Blitz, SS Gut Blitz	**Dime-3-2-6**	2 Man Under, Cover 3, Cover 4, Prevent

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Dre' Bly	90	44	93	86
CB	Fernando Bryant	84	48	95	83
CB	Jamar Fletcher	77	45	87	70
CB	Keith Smith	73	46	91	60
CB	Stanley Wilson	72	52	94	52
DT	Shaun Rogers	95	96	63	80
DT	Shaun Cody	80	83	64	66
DT	Marcus Bell	76	91	48	68
DT	Cleveland Pinkney	69	88	58	52
FS	Daniel Bullocks	78	57	87	62
FS	Terrence Holt	74	55	84	66
FS	Vernon Fox	71	62	85	65
LE	Cory Redding	79	83	67	68
LE	Jared DeVries	65	75	59	70
LOLB	Boss Bailey	86	72	88	72
LOLB	Donte Curry	71	65	78	68
MLB	Teddy Lehman	77	69	84	77
MLB	Paris Lenon	72	70	76	72
RE	James Hall	86	82	73	76
RE	Kalimba Edwards	83	70	78	74
ROLB	Ernie Sims	83	73	86	58
ROLB	James Davis	79	66	77	75
ROLB	Alex Lewis	71	65	85	55
SS	Kenoy Kennedy	86	69	85	78
SS	Jon McGraw	75	56	87	69

Special Teams

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
K	Jason Hanson	87	31	52	95
P	Nick Harris	78	44	50	70

Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

The fans are generally happy with ticket prices. Our stadium upkeep costs are a little above the league average. We need to make it to the playoffs to earn some respect. We've got cap room. Now's not the time to be cheap.

Team Salary: 76.0M
Cap Room: 29.4M
Key Rival: Green Bay Packers
NFL Icons: None
Philosophy:
- Offense: West Coast
- Defense: Disrupt Passing

Prestige: Low
Team Needs:
- Linebacker
- Wide Receiver

Highest Paid Players:
- Charles Rogers
- Damien Woody

Up and Coming Players:
- Mike Williams
- Ernie Sims

Team Trivia

Detroit Lions Facts

Answers are on the following page.

1 Who has the longest run from scrimmage, 96 yards, in Lions' history?

2 Which Detroit receiving duo became the first in NFL history to finish the season with 100+ catches each?

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Portsmouth, OH | **Starting Year:** 1930 | **League:** NFC

Franchise Beginnings

Originally introduced into the American Professional Football League (NFL) as the Portsmouth, Ohio Spartans in 1930, the team we know as the Detroit Lions was relocated to the "Motor City" in 1934 when a radio executive by the name of George A. Richards purchased the team for an unprecedented $7,952.08. Previous to the purchase, the city of Detroit had three failed attempts at starting a pro football team in the 1920s. It wasn't until acquiring the already established Spartans (renamed Lions upon arrival) did a team finally lay roots in Detroit, winning the NFL Championship title in only their second season (1935).

Notable Moments

• The First Playoff Game

In 1932 the first playoff game was played between the Portsmouth Spartans (Detroit Lions) and the Chicago Bears. In the 12 years prior to the game, a league championship was determined by the team with the best record. Since the teams finished the season with the same record, a one-game playoff was held to crown the 1932 League Champion.

• Thanksgiving Day Games

In their new home of Detroit, the Lions began scheduling a football game on Thanksgiving Day. The game sparked a lasting tradition that is now synonymous with the holiday.

Notable Figures



Allen Kee/WireImage.com

Barry Sanders ('89-'98)

Barry Sanders started his long list of accolades with the Heisman Trophy in 1988. He went on to rush for more than 1,000 yards in each of his 10 seasons, becoming the first player to do so. In 1997, he became one of only three running backs to ever rush for more than 2,000 yards in a single season.

Joe Schmidt ('53-'65, '67-'72)

Joe Schmidt revolutionized the role of middle linebacker in a time when the position was being defined. He made NFL all-league ten times in addition to being selected for the pro bowl in ten straight seasons. But it was with his teammates that Joe made the most impact. He was the team's defensive leader as well as the team's field captain for nine consecutive seasons.

Bobby Layne ('50-'58)

The heyday for the Detroit Lions was in the 1950s when quarterback Bobby Layne piloted the team to three NFL Championships and four Western Division titles. Known for his efficiency in the two-minute drill, Layne still holds franchise passing records for pass attempts.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• Lions legend Earl "Dutch" Clark was one of the **17 charter members** to be elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1963.

• Winning their 2004 season opener against the Bears in Chicago's Soldier Field halted Detroit's NFL record of **24 straight road game losses** dating back to the 2001 season.

• In 1997, franchise rushing leader Barry Sanders rushed for 100-yards in 14 consecutive games of their 16 game season, setting NFL records for **most consecutive 100-yard games**, and **most 100-yard games in a season**. In only 10 seasons of football, Sanders recorded a total of 76 100-yard games, putting him one less behind Walter Payton for the all-time NFL record.

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:
Bobby Layne ('50-'58) **1,074**

• Passing Yards:
Bobby Layne ('50-'58) **15,710**

• Passing Touchdowns:
Bobby Layne ('50-'58) **118**

• Receptions:
Herman Moore ('91-'01) **670**

• Receiving Yards:
Herman Moore ('91-'01) **9,174**

• Receiving Touchdowns:
Herman Moore ('91-'01) **62**

• Rushing Yards:
Barry Sanders ('89-'98) **15,269**

• Rushing Touchdowns:
Barry Sanders ('89-'98) **99**

• Career Points Leader:
• Jason Hanson ('92-'06) **1,420**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:
Robert Porcher ('92-'04) **95.5**

• Interceptions:
Dick LeBeau ('59-'72) **62**

Team Trivia

Answers

1 Bob Hoernschemeyer sprinted for a 96 yard gain in 1950 against the NY Yanks.

2 Herman Moore grabbed 123 passes with number 2 option Brett Perriman grabbing 108 passes.

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GREEN BAY PACKERS

Division: NFC North | **Stadium:** Lambeau Field | **Type:** Open | **Capacity:** 72,601 | **Surface:** Grass

2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
4	12	0	298	344	3-5	1-7	0-4	4-8	1-5

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	87
Offense	87
Defense	86

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Team Rankings

Scoring	22nd
Passing Offense	7th
Rushing Offense	30th
Passing Defense	1st
Rushing Defense	23rd
Turnovers	26th

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• Brett Favre returns for his 16th season in the league. He still has the arm strength and accuracy to get it done. If running back Ahman Green can avoid the injury plague that has cost him most of last season, he can take some pressure off the passing game. Donald Driver is the team's best receiver and Favre's most reliable target.

Weaknesses

• The offensive line continues to take hits with players moving on to other teams. Losing center Mike Flanagan is a major blow because he called out run and pass blocking protection schemes. His replacement is Scott Wells, who has only been the in league for three years. With Javon Walker moving on to Denver, Driver is the only real passing threat at receiver.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• Drafting Ohio State's A.J. Hawk in the first round to team up with Nick Barnett gives the Packers a rock solid combination at linebacker. Hawk is an extraordinary athlete, who will fit right in at weak outside linebacker. Barnett led the team in tackles by racking up 138 of them. The signing of free agent Charles Woodson should have a huge impact in the passing defense

Weaknesses

• The Packers' pass rush was sorely lacking in 2005. In particular the entire defensive line was missing in action. Kabeer Gbaja-Biamila managed to get 8 sacks, but the rest of team registered only. Despite the lack of pressure, the Packers ranked number 1 in passing defense in the NFL. With a little pressure they could put serious lockdown on the passing game.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Kenderick Allen	Giants	DT	6'6"	315
FA	NA	Billy Cundiff	Cowboys	K	6'1"	201
FA	NA	Charles Woodson	Raiders	CB	6'1"	200
Rookie	1	A.J. Hawk	Ohio St.	LB	6'1"	240
Rookie	2	Daryn Colledge	Boise St.	T	6'5"	272



Playing As: Green Bay Packers

1. Take pressure off of Brett Favre by pounding the rock and using play action to slow down the pass rush.
2. Charles Woodson can handle his side; this will allow you to rotate pass coverage help out Al Harris.
3. Rookie linebacker A.J. Hawk needs to be on the field at all times to make plays. Use personnel packages to move him around.

Playing Against: Green Bay Packers

1. Put pressure on Favre as much as you can. He tends to throw into tight coverage where there is a chance the ball could be picked off.
2. Look to pound the ball inside. The Packers' defensive tackles are not very strong at stopping the run.
3. In passing situations you should double up Donald Driver. He is the Packers' only consistent passing threat.

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TEAM STRATEGY

Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

- **Position:** RG
- **Substitution:** Junius Coston
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** If you plan on running a lot of screens, traps, and counters that require the right guard to pull, then starting Junius Coston over William Whitticker is the move to make.

- **Position:** CB
- **Substitution:** Ahmad Carroll
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** If you value speed over awareness, then moving Ahmad Carroll in as starter at cornerback is a good global substitution to make.

- **Position:** SS
- **Substitution:** Mark Roman
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** Here's another move you can make based on your preference between speed or awareness. Mark Roman's speed rating is three points higher than incumbent Marquand Manuel. If you value awareness over speed, leave Manuel as the starter at strong safety.

Fantasy Outlook

- **Star:** Brett Favre
- **Draft:** 8th round
- **2005 Outlook:** He put up the most passing yardage in the NFC last season despite not having a lot of talent around him. His interception total shouldn't be as high this season.

- **Star:** Ahman Green
- **Draft:** 8th round
- **2005 Outlook:** Last season he was too banged up to be a factor as a fantasy running back. If he stays healthy, he would make an excellent late-round pick.

Star Players

Brett Favre • Quarterback (QB) #4

Showcase Plays for Favre

I-Form-Normal



Short Slants

• Favre still has one of the most powerful arms in the game despite being 36 years old. The I-Form Short Slants showcases his arm strength by getting the ball quickly to the open receiver. In this screen shot, we have Favre throw a laser to the flanker just as he breaks to the middle of the field.

Singleback-4WR Flex



PA Slot Crosses

• If the run game can be established, the play action pass can be an effective way to beat the defense. Few quarterbacks in the game do a better job at selling play action than Favre. Once the fake has been made, we look for the two slot receivers running crossing routes. One of them will almost always be open against man coverage.



Key Attributes

Awareness	92
Speed	52
Throwing Power	97
Throwing Accuracy	85

Most experts thought last season was the end of Brett Favre's career. Just before the NFL 2006 Draft, he decided to come back, as he believes the Packers have a shot at a Super Bowl ring and he feels he still can play at high level. Despite throwing a league high 29 interception, he still managed to throw for 3,881 yards.

A.J. Hawk • Left Outside Linebacker (LOB) #58

Showcase Plays for Hawk

4-3-Normal Slant 1



OLB Fire

• Hawk has amazing speed that allows him to get after the quarterback in a hurry. A defensive play we like to call that utilizes this attribute is the 4-3-Normal Slant 1 OLB Fire. We like to shift the linebackers to the right giving Hawk a better blitz angle to the quarterback.

Nickel-Normal



Cover 2

• A good red zone defense to call is the Nickel Normal Cover 2. The free safety and strong safety split out wide. The left cornerback and right cornerback cover the flats. The nickelback, middle linebacker, and Hawk drop back in hook zones. If any receiver comes in Hawk's area, he had better watch out or get leveled.



Key Attributes

Awareness	65
Strength	73
Tackle	85
Speed	87

The Packers were in dire need of some playmakers on the defensive side of the ball and that is why they drafted A.J. Hawk with the 5th pick overall in the NFL 2006 Draft. Hawk is a natural fit at weak outside linebacker because of his speed and athleticism. Look for Green Bay to devise schemes around Hawk so he can make impact plays all over the field.

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Key Offensive Plays

A I Form-Twin TE
1st, 2nd and short yardage



• HB Counter Str
Tight ends Bubba Franks and David Martin both line up on the left side of the line. With the extra blockers, the HB Counter Strong is an effective power run play to call to pick up yardage. Once the ball is snapped, follow the pulling right guard Will Whitticker.



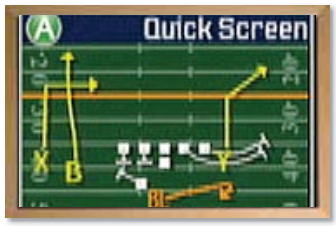
B Singleback-Empty Bunch
Any down/distance after run



• Motion Drive
When running this the defense will more than likely call some type of blitz. Your primary receiver is Donald Driver. As soon he breaks to the sideline, make the throw. If he is not open, look for the slot receiver running the hook route.



C Weak I-Twin WR
1st & 2nd using pass



• Quick Screen
The Weak I-Twin WR Quick Screen gets right guard Will Whitticker and right tackle Mark Tauscher out in front of Ahman Green to set up the run blocking. Be sure to roll Brett Favre away from that side of the screen.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
I Form-Twin WR	PA Split, Curls, Short Slants, HB Screen	**I Form-Big**	HB Lead Dive, HB Slam, Counter Lead
Singleback-Empty Bunch	Curl Flats, FL Shake, Double Drags, Motion Drive	**Full House-Strong**	HB Dive, HB Pitch, HB Slam, HB Smash

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Scott Wells	79	83	56	73
C	Jason Spitz	74	88	52	60
C	Chris White	73	89	50	59
FB	William Henderson	93	71	62	83
HB	Ahman Green	88	75	92	87
HB	Najeh Davenport	80	77	86	67
HB	Samkon Gado	76	72	88	66
LG	Adrian Klemm	81	90	54	74
LG	Daryn Colledge	77	81	64	60
LT	Chad Clifton	94	92	53	93
LT	Tony Moll	64	85	59	45
QB	Brett Favre	88	55	52	92
QB	Aaron Rodgers	79	54	66	68
QB	Ingle Martin	72	58	82	48
RG	Junius Coston	75	87	55	63

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
RG	William Whitticker	75	93	44	72
RT	Mark Tauscher	94	92	54	96
RT	Kevin Barry	83	97	52	75
TE	Bubba Franks	86	78	64	85
TE	Donald Lee	76	70	77	67
TE	David Martin	67	65	69	66
WR	Donald Driver	90	56	91	89
WR	Robert Ferguson	80	64	91	74
WR	Rod Gardner	78	68	87	72
WR	Greg Jennings	75	44	90	62
WR	Cory Rodgers	71	60	89	47
WR	Marc Boerigter	69	60	85	62

Coaching Profile

Mike McCarthy
- **Head Coaching Year:** 1st
- **Experience:** 13 years of pro coaching experience.

McCarthy is now the youngest NFL coach in the league at 42 and the 14th head coach in the Packers' storied franchise. He has tutored several of the league's past and present quarterbacks in the West Coach Offense, such as Brett Favre, Matt Hasselbeck, Rich Gannon, and Joe Montana.

Detailed Package Info

Green Bay Packers

- **Formation:** Strong I-Twin TE
- **Package:** Jumbo Backfield
- **Play:** Screen
- **Advantage:** Here's a good package to use for goal line situations that puts fullback William Henderson in at halfback. He can use his power to get into the end zone.

- **Formation:** Singleback-Twin TE WR
- **Package:** WR Swap
- **Play:** WR Screen
- **Advantage:** This moves Donald Driver outside to set up for the screen pass where you can use his playmaking ability to pick up yardage.

- **Formation:** Nickel-Normal
- **Package:** LOLB Left
- **Play:** Over Storm Brave
- **Advantage:** This puts A.J. Hawk on a delayed blitz. Often the offensive linemen won't account for him because they think he is dropping back in pass coverage.

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Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

Our coaching salaries are well below the league average. Let's try to keep food prices right where they are. Fans are generally happy with our merchandise prices.

Team Salary: 78.8M
Cap Room: 26.7M
Key Rival: Chicago Bears
NFL Icons:
- Brett Favre

Philosophy:
- Offense: Establish Run
- Defense: Shut Down Runs

Prestige: Low
Team Needs:
- Offensive Line
- Left Outside Linebacker

Highest Paid Players:
- Brett Favre
- Charles Woodson

Up and Coming Players:
- A.J. Hawk
- Ahmad Carroll

Team Trivia

Green Bay Packers Facts

Answers are on the following page.

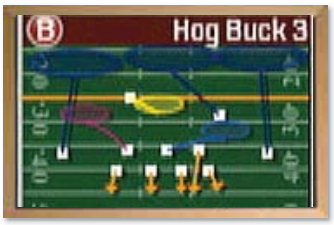
1 Brett Favre joined the Packers in 1992, in a trade with what other team?

2 Who invented the "Lambeau Leap"?

Key Defensive Plays

A 4-3-Normal

1st & 2nd aggressive



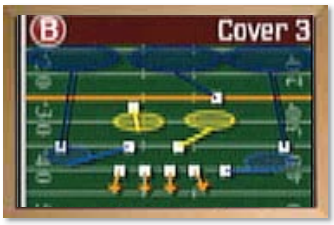
• Hog Buck 3

Left outside linebacker Ben Taylor is sent on a blitz. He provides an extra pass rusher to get to the quarterback. The strong safety as well as the two cornerbacks drop back in three deep pass coverage.



B 4-3-Over

1st & 2nd stop inside run



• Cover 3

The right and left outside linebackers cover the flats. The free safety and middle linebacker play hook zones. They look to cover the short to mid middle portion of the field. The strong safety and two corners provide the deep coverage.



C Dime-Normal

3rd and long yardage pass



• DB Blitz

The defensive back lined up on the right side of the field is sent in on a blitz. The free safety plays the deep middle of the field. The linebacker drops back in a hook zone over the middle. The rest of the defense plays man coverage.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
4-3-Normal	Engage Eight, Free Fire, Slant 1 OLB Fire, OLB Fire Man	**4-3-Normal**	2 Man Under, Double QB Spy, DE Contain, 4 Deep Quarters
Nickel Strong	Engage Eight, Strong Man. FS Snake Blitz 3, Under Smoke	**Quarter-Normal**	2 Man Under, Cover 3, Under Man Zone, Prevent

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Al Harris	89	68	88	92
CB	Charles Woodson	88	65	90	85
CB	Ahmad Carroll	78	52	96	65
CB	Will Blackmon	73	55	90	45
CB	Mike Hawkins	66	50	89	48
DT	Ryan Pickett	85	85	65	70
DT	Cullen Jenkins	79	82	66	70
DT	Colin Cole	77	89	56	65
DT	Donnell Washington	72	86	63	44
DT	Corey Williams	66	77	65	47
FS	Nick Collins	86	64	93	66
FS	Marviel Underwood	72	52	86	62
LE	Aaron Kampman	88	85	74	75
LE	Kenny Peterson	70	75	62	63
LE	Rob Davis	64	71	60	65
LOLB	A.J. Hawk	85	73	87	65
LOLB	Brady Poppinga	68	73	74	62
MLB	Nick Barnett	89	77	81	82
MLB	Abdul Hodge	76	72	81	68
RE	Kabeer Gbaja Biamila	89	72	84	75
RE	Mike Montgomery	66	75	68	49
ROLB	Ben Taylor	83	75	77	79
ROLB	Roy Manning	67	71	77	50
SS	Marquand Manuel	81	63	85	73
SS	Mark Roman	77	54	88	68

Special Teams

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
K	Billy Cundiff	76	25	60	68
P	B.J. Sander	73	25	62	61

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Green Bay, WI | **Starting Year:** 1919 | **League:** NFC

Franchise Beginnings

In 1919 the team was founded by Curly Lambeau and George Whitney Calhoun in Green Bay, Wisconsin. The Packers joined the NFL in 1921 during the league's second season. Lambeau solicited funds for uniforms from his employer, the Indian Packing Company. He was given $500 for uniforms and equipment, on the condition that the team be named for its sponsor. They were also granted use of the athletic field for practice. Today the Packers are now the last remaining example of the "small town teams" that comprised a majority of the NFL during the 1920s.

Notable Moments

• Super Bowl I

The Packers won the first Super Bowl between National Football League and American Football League on January 15, 1967 at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. Packers 35, Chiefs 10.

• The "Ice Bowl"

In the closing minutes of the 1967 NFC championship against the Cowboys, the Packers captured a come-from-behind win with a legendary 68-yard drive. With no time left on the clock, Bart Starr scored the final touchdown to win the game rather than kick a field goal to tie. The game was played in 13-below-zero weather with a wind chill of minus 46, and was voted "the greatest game in pro football history." Packers 21, Cowboys 17.

Notable Figures



Vernon Biever/WireImage.com

Vince Lombardi ('59-'67)

Vince Lombardi took over the coaching job of the 1-10-1 Packers in 1959. He instantly turned the team into a winning franchise the next year and led the Packers to six divisional championships, five NFL championships, and victories in the first two Super Bowls. Was acclaimed as NFL Man of the Decade in the 1960s and is the namesake for the Super Bowl trophy.

Earl Lambeau ('19-'49)

Earl Louis "Curly" Lambeau was the founder, player, and the first coach of the Green Bay Packers professional football team. Curly led the Packers to six champions in the late '20s and '30s. The new City Stadium that was built in 1957 was renamed to Lambeau Field in September 1965 following Lambeau's death that June.

Bart Starr ('56-'71)

The quarterback at the helm of Vince Lombardi's Packers of the sixties was Bart Starr. From 1960 to 1967 Bart Starr had an incredible win/loss record of 62-24-4. He became a winner of six division crowns, five NFL championships, and two Super Bowls.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• The team is **owned by Brown County**. The Packers are the only remaining publicly-owned pro sports team with 4,748,923 shares and 111,613 stockholders, none of whom receive dividend on their initial investment.

• The Packers have won 12 league championships, which is more than any other American professional football team

• Despite playing in major sports' smallest TV market (69th—Jacksonville, at 52nd, is closest), Packers have **most fans in league** based on 2002 Harris poll, merchandise sales, and web site attraction.

• Coined "Frozen Tundra" due to the field freezing before warmers were installed under the grass, Lambeau Field is the **longest continually-occupied stadium** in the NFL at 48 years.

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:
Brett Favre ('92-'06) **4,678**

• Passing Yards:
Brett Favre ('92-'06) **53,615**

• Passing Touchdowns:
Brett Favre ('92-'06) **396**

• Receptions:
Sterling Sharpe ('88-'94) **595**

• Receiving Yards:
James Lofton ('78-'86) **9,656**

• Receiving Touchdowns:
Don Hutson ('35-'45) **99**

• Rushing Yards:
Jim Taylor ('58-'66) **8,207**

• Rushing Touchdowns:
Jim Taylor ('58-'66) **81**

• Career Points Leader:
• Don Hutson ('35-'45) **823**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:
Reggie White ('93-'98) **68.5**

• Interceptions:
Bobby Dillon ('52-'59) **52**

Team Trivia

Answers

1 Atlanta Falcons

2 LeRoy Butler. Robert made the leap legendary, and even wrote a song about it, however Butler was the first to try it.

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CAROLINA PANTHERS

Division: NFC South | **Stadium:** Bank of America Stadium | **Type:** Open | **Capacity:** 73,298 | **Surface:** Grass



2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
11	5	0	391	259	5-3	6-2	3-1	8-4	4-2

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	90
Offense	89
Defense	90

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Team Rankings

Scoring	8th
Passing Offense	17th
Rushing Offense	19th
Passing Defense	9th
Rushing Defense	4th
Turnovers	2nd

TEAM STRATEGY

Playing As: Carolina Panthers

1. The Panthers' offense can play both smash mouth (running the ball) and air it out (pass) styles very effectively.

2. To present the biggest threat to a defense, use Steve Smith on fly routes, as he will normally run by any defender covering him.

3. On defense, take advantage of the speed of the defensive ends to bring constant pressure from the outside without sacrificing coverage.

Playing Against: Carolina Panthers

1. To play the Panthers, you must force them to play the style you are most comfortable defending. Teams that have a balance of pass and run are hard to stop, so we must limit them and make the team one sided.

2. Make sure that Steve Smith is accounted for on every play. Do not let him get open for a deep lob.

3. Attacking the Panthers' defense is a little easier. Use plays with quick developing routes and avoid dropping back deep with no plan of attack.

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• Where do you start on this side of the ball? The Panthers have a solid Pro-Bowl quarterback, one of the best receivers Steve Smith, and they finally have a legit number-two receiver in Keyshawn Johnson to replace Muhsin Muhammad. Don't forget they picked up RB DeAngelo Williams in the draft.

Weaknesses

• What is going on in Carolina with the HB position? The last two years have been scary for the Panthers' ball carriers as they have yet to finish a full season with any of their game one starters. This can be a problem if DeShaun Foster goes down again and rookie DeAngelo Williams is not ready for the game speed of the NFL. Only time will tell.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• Unity and time together is a major plus for the Panthers on this side of the ball as they return most of their starters from last year. The D-line is still the anchor of the defense and has a chance to be even better with the return of DT Kris Jenkins. The unit also adds LB Na'il Diggs and DT Ma'ake Kemoeatu. These additions should help solidify the run defense.

Weaknesses

• The Panthers lost another one of their great linebackers in Will Witherspoon. Last season draft pick Thomas Davis may be forced to be an every down LB and he has to prove he can handle that. The secondary will also be questioned in Nickel and Dimes sets because of the loss of Ricky Manning Jr.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Keyshawn Johnson	Cowboys	WR	6'4"	214
FA	NA	Damione Lewis	Rams	DT	6'2"	301
FA	NA	Reggie Howard	Dolphins	CB	6'0"	185
Rookie	1	DeAngelo Williams	Memphis	RB	5'9"	213
Rookie	2	Richard Marshall	Fresno State	CB	5'11"	188

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Steve Smith • Wide Receiver (WR) #89

Showcase Plays for Smith

Weak I-Normal



WR Drag

• Steve Smith is one of the best receivers when it comes to running after the catch. The WR Drag from the Weak I formation is a play that lets him use his great agility and break-away speed to punish the defense. When the play starts, Smith drags across the middle of the field and gets free. Hit him here and rack up the yards as he outruns the linebackers.

Strong I-H



Pro Stick

• This is a play that can pay big dividends immediately. The Stick has Steve Smith running a streak route, and with his speed more often than not that's money! The quarterback hikes the ball and takes a quick glance at the strong safety to see he is not playing the sideline, so we throw the deep lob to Smith.



Key Attributes

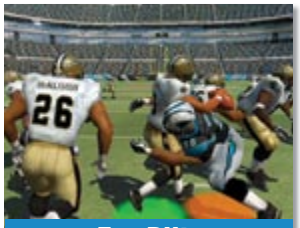
Acceleration	98
Awareness	89
Catching	95
Speed	97

Smith is the heart, soul, and personality of the Carolina Panthers. He made an immediate impact coming back from a season-ending injury and lit the league up last year. His swagger boosted confidence in his teammates and took the team back to the NFC Championship game in just one year. He is a game-changing receiver.

Julius Peppers • Defensive End (LE) #90

Showcase Plays for Peppers

Nickel-3-3-5 CB



Fox Blitz

• When using Julius Peppers, we want to take advantage of his speed around the edge. This play's assignment lets him do this. At the snap, Peppers loops around the outside and then explodes up the field to attack the quarterback. He picks up the sack as shown here.

Quarter-Normal



Cover 3

• Another play that uses Peppers's ability is the Quarter-Normal Cover 3. Getting pressure up-front helps the cornerbacks in pass coverage. In this play, Peppers explodes off the ball using the outside rush. Once around the edge, he zeros in on the quarterback and sacks him right before the goal line.



Key Attributes

Speed	86
Strength	82
Awareness	75
Tackling	77

Peppers is one of the most athletic defensive ends in all of football. He has the rare mix of speed, strength, and quickness. His talents have led him to be recognized as one of the best in football. Peppers is coming off of a Pro Bowl season where he registered 11 sacks.

Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

• **Position:** HB 2
• **Substitution:** DeAngelo Williams
• **When:** Global
• **Advantage:** With DeAngelo Williams as the backup running back, our team loses nothing when he comes in the game. He has great speed and is very good at catching the ball out of the backfield.

• **Position:** TE2
• **Substitution:** Michael Gains
• **When:** Global
• **Advantage:** Michael Gaines will add more of a passing threat to our offense when we add him as the backup tight end. He is a perfect fit for our two tight end sets. His speed is a problem for defenses to deal with.

• **Position:** CR3 (NB)
• **Substitution:** Richard Marshall
• **When:** Global
• **Advantage:** Rookie Richard Marshall will add some needed speed past the top two corners and be a help in the nickel position.

Fantasy Outlook

• **Star:** Steve Smith
• **Draft:** 2nd round
• **2006 Outlook:** Smith had his best season as a pro in 2005. He caught 103 passes, picked up 1,563 receiving yards, and got into the end zone 12 times. There's no reason why he won't put up those numbers again in 2006.

• **Star:** Jake DelHomme
• **Draft:** 8th round
• **2006 Outlook:** Delhomme doesn't always get looked at as a top-notch fantasy league quarterback When the Panthers decide to throw, Delhomme can rack up the passing yardage in a hurry.

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Coaching Profile

John Fox

- **Head Coaching Year:** 5th
- **Experience:** Defensive coordinator for the New York Giants from 1997-2001.

Fox became Carolina Panthers' third head coach on January 25, 2002. In 2003, he guided the Panthers to Super Bowl XXXVIII—two years after inheriting a team that won one game in 2001.

TEAM STRATEGY

Detailed Package Info

Carolina Panthers

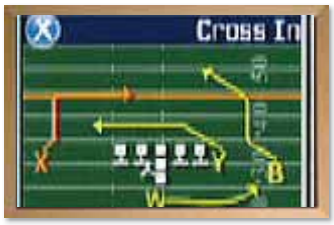
- **Formation:** Weak I-H Pro
- **Package:** WR Swap
- **Play:** Johnson Option
- **Advantage:** We use this to swap receivers but we also do this to see if a defense has a man assigned to Steve Smith. If they do we will see the switch pre-snap.

- **Formation:** Singleback-4WR
- **Package:** Stack Weak
- **Play:** Slot Clearouts
- **Advantage:** Puts Steve Smith in the slot to Keyshawn's side and lets them work off of each other's route to get open.

- **Formation:** Nickel-3-3-5
- **Package:** DE Swap
- **Play:** Double X
- **Advantage:** One of the ways we like to move Peppers and Rucker around. Keeps the pressure coming from either side and can really confuse an opponent trying to get a pass read.

Key Offensive Plays

A I Form-Normal
1st, 2nd, 3rd

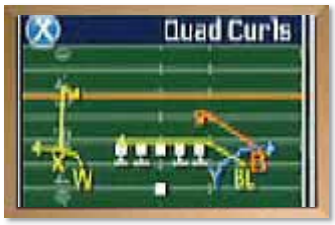


• Cross In

We want to establish Keyshawn Johnson as a factor so that Steve Smith will get favorable matchups in key situations. In this play, Keyshawn gets inside position on the corner defending him, catches the ball, and then turns to pick up the first down.



B Shotgun-5WR Tight
1st, 2nd, 3rd

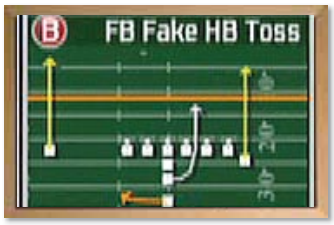


•Quad Curls

Jake Delhomme is a surgeon on the football field. We use the Quad Curls to give him multiple options to pick from in order to shred the defense. This time he goes to the tight right slot running the delay flat route for the easy gain on the play.



C I Form-Strg Twin TE
2nd



• FB Fake HB Toss

We like to take advantage of Foster's speed and strength by calling this play for him. The FB Fake HB Toss gives him a chance to pick up a nice chunk of yardage. He takes advantage of the opportunity by gaining 10 yards on the play.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Singleback-Panther Trips	Bunch, Curls, WR Drag, Quick Slants	Full House-Philly	HB Dive, Counter Lead, FB Slam, HB Slam
Split Backs-3WR	Slot Z Out, WR Option, HB Middle, WR Unders	Weak I-H Wing TE	Toss Weak, FB Power, HB Wham, HB Gut

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Justin Hartwig	86	88	57	79
C	Geoff Hangartner	70	87	55	50
FB	Brad Hoover	80	70	75	68
FB	Casey Cramer	74	75	69	60
HB	DeShaun Foster	87	74	92	82
HB	DeAngelo Williams	82	61	92	62
HB	Nick Goings	78	74	86	76
HB	Jamal Robertson	72	65	85	59
HB	Eric Shelton	72	73	87	54
LG	Mike Wahle	96	94	56	87
LG	Chad Beasley	65	86	43	66
LT	Travelle Wharton	83	87	58	75
LT	Todd Fordham	76	89	44	82
QB	Jake Delhomme	92	52	64	92
QB	Stefan LeFors	72	48	74	54

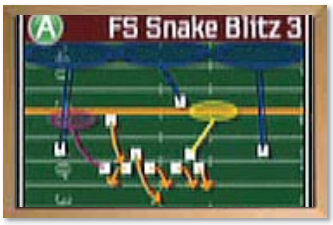
Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
QB	Chris Weinke	71	61	52	70
RG	Evan Mathis	79	86	62	64
RG	Scott Peters	64	81	60	56
RT	Jordan Gross	93	89	62	85
RT	Dave Kadela	61	82	45	65
TE	Kris Mangum	76	68	73	67
TE	Mike Seidman	70	70	65	59
TE	Michael Gaines	68	70	76	57
WR	Steve Smith	97	63	97	89
WR	Keyshawn Johnson	88	67	86	90
WR	Keary Colbert	78	54	87	74
WR	Drew Carter	68	54	96	41
WR	Karl Hankton	63	53	87	64

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Key Defensive Plays

A Nickel-Strong

Passing downs



• FS Snake Blitz 3

We like to run this defense when our opponent lines up in Singleback-Big sets. This play lets Julius Peppers and Mike Minter bring pressure from the edges with Davis blitzing through the "B" gap. This is one of our favorite zone blitzes.



B 4-3 Under

1st & 2nd stop the run



• Double X

Sometimes an opponent will try to bait us by calling a run formation only to come out and pass. We use the Double X in these situations. This defense gives us good pressure up front and lets our left corner and strong safety double the receiver to their side.



C Dime-Flat

3rd and long



• Zone Blitz

We're in a three deep, three man underneath zone and have one defender (Richard Marshall) blitzing. At the snap of the ball he explodes off the line around the corner and through the quarterback for the sack.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
4-3-Normal	Storm Blitz, CB Blitz, Engage Eight, Under Ram Buck	**Nickel-Strong**	Cloud Zone, Cover 2, 1 Robber, 2 Man Under
Nickel-3-3-5	Engage Eight, CB Fox Blitz 3, LB Ram Dogs, Man QB Spy	**Dime-Normal**	Cover 2 Pinch, Quarters Spy, Double Z, Prevent

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Ken Lucas	94	65	92	88
CB	Chris Gamble	88	59	92	74
CB	Reggie Howard	80	55	88	80
CB	Richard Marshall	78	54	92	59
DT	Kris Jenkins	93	93	64	77
DT	Damione Lewis	81	84	64	72
DT	Ma'ake Kemoeatu	80	90	50	74
DT	Kindal Moorehead	77	83	58	70
DT	Jordan Carstens	69	78	58	60
FS	Mike Minter	90	63	86	90
FS	Nate Salley	74	66	84	60
LE	Julius Peppers	97	82	86	75
LE	Al Wallace	80	74	73	77
LOLB	Na'il Diggs	86	76	79	80
LOLB	Keith Adams	84	68	82	78
MLB	Dan Morgan	92	76	85	88
MLB	Adam Seward	64	76	74	60
RE	Mike Rucker	91	79	74	90
RE	Stanley McClover	71	66	77	38
ROLB	Thomas Davis	85	69	87	65
ROLB	Chris Draft	84	74	78	80
SS	Shaun Williams	85	58	87	80
SS	Colin Branch	72	58	87	65
SS	Kevin McCadam	70	55	85	76

Special Teams

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
K	John Kasay	85	37	52	87
P	Jason Baker	84	38	56	74

Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

Making the playoffs last year was a big boost to the bottom line. Fans are generally happy with our merchandise prices. Our coaches are among the most highly paid in the industry. Fans are happy with the affordable food prices.

Team Salary: 81.5M
Cap Room: 23.9M
Key Rival:
• Tampa Bay Buccaneers
NFL Icons: None
Team Morale: Good
Philosophy:
• Offense: Establish Run
• Defense: Shut Down Runs
Prestige: Medium
Team Needs:
• Linebacker
• Running Back
Highest Paid Players:
• Jake Delhomme
• Julius Peppers
Up and Coming Players:
• Richard Marshall
• DeAngelo Williams

Team Trivia

Carolina Panthers Facts

Answers are on the following page.

1 Who was the first player selected by the Panthers in the expansion draft that allocated them their players in 1995?

2 What famous personality was the first player ever cut by the Carolina Panthers?

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Charlotte, NC | **Starting Year:** 1993 | **League:** NFC

Franchise Beginnings

Jerry Richardson, former Wide Receiver for the Baltimore Colts, led the charge for a franchise bid in the Carolinas—in 1993, he and his partners were awarded the 29th franchise in the NFL and the first expansion team since 1976. The site for the privately-financed stadium was chosen in uptown Charlotte, North Carolina, and was sold out on its first day of advanced ticket sales for club seats and luxury suites—before the stadium was even built!

Notable Moments

• NFC Western Division Champions

In just their second season as a franchise, the Panthers posted a 12-4 record to win the NFC Western Division. They went on to beat the defending Super Bowl Champions, the Dallas Cowboys, in the NFC divisional playoff to make a NFC Championship appearance.

• Super Bowl Bound

On December 14, 2003, John Kasay kicked a remarkable 49-yard field goal to win the game in the final four seconds of the game. This win gave them a playoff berth where they squared off with the Cowboys in the NFC Wild Card game—they won, 29-10. The next stop was St. Louis, where they won the game on a 69-yard touchdown pass by Jake Delhomme in double overtime. Defeating the Eagles afterwards in the NFC Championship game earned them a Super Bowl appearance.

Notable Figures



NFL/WireImage.com

Sam Mills ('95-'97)

The only player to start every game in the Panthers' first three seasons, Sam Mills was a cornerstone in the team's early success and high defense. In only three seasons with the club, Mills had 385 tackles, seven interceptions, six fumble recoveries, and ten sacks. He's the first player to be honored in the Panthers' Hall of Honor.

Steve Beuerlein ('96-'00)

Steve Beuerlein, the quarterback responsible for the Panthers' early success, led the team for their first few seasons. Being the first quarterback for the club, he set the bar high for quarterbacks to come with career franchise records of 12,690 yards passing, 86 passing touchdowns, and a completion percentage of 60.4.

Mike McCormack ('89-'97)

A well respected member of the Hall of Fame, Mike McCormack played an invaluable role in helping Jerry Richardson bid for the Carolina Panthers during the expansion process; when Carolina beat overwhelming odds to land a franchise, McCormack was unanimously voted as the Panther's first general manager, and later became president.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• With two expansion teams entering the 1995 draft, the top selection literally came down to **a coin toss**. Jacksonville and Carolina flipped a coin to see who would get first pick. Carolina won and traded the first pick for two first round choices. QB Kerry Collins out of Penn State was the **first-ever draft choice** by the Panthers.

• There are six bronze panthers that surround the stadiums three main entrances. The statues were the **largest** to be commissioned in the United States.

• In 1999, the Panthers beat the Green Bay packers in a dramatic shoot out that went to the final seconds. The game featured a combined 750 offensive yards, and the Panthers became the first visiting team to win at Lambeau field in over **8 years**.

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:
Steve Beuerlein ('96-'00) **1,041**

• Passing Yards:
Steve Beuerlein ('96-'00) **12,690**

• Passing Touchdowns:
Steve Beuerlein ('96-'00) **86**

• Receptions:
Mushin Muhammad ('96-'04) **578**

• Receiving Yards:
Mushin Muhammad ('96-'04) **7,751**

• Receiving Touchdowns:
Mushin Muhammad ('96-'04) **44**
Wesley Walls ('96-'02) **44**

• Rushing Yards:
Tshimanga Biakabutuka ('96-'01) **2,530**

• Rushing Touchdowns:
Tshimanga Biakabutuka ('96-'01) **14**

• Career Points Leader:
• John Kasay ('95-'06) **964**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:
Kevin Greene ('96,'98-'00) **41.5**

• Interceptions:
Eric Davis ('96,-'00) **25**

Team Trivia

Answers

1 Rod Smith was a cornerback and former Notre Dame standout, and he retired after several more productive seasons.

2 Bill Goldberg became a famous professional wrestler, and won the WCW title.

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NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

Division: AFC East | **Stadium:** Gillette Stadium™ | **Type:** Open | **Capacity:** 68,000 | **Surface:** Grass

2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
10	6	0	379	338	5-3	5-3	7-5	3-1	5-1



Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	90
Offense	89
Defense	88

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Team Rankings

Scoring	10th
Passing Offense	2nd
Rushing Offense	24th
Passing Defense	31st
Rushing Defense	8th
Turnovers	31st

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• As long as Tom Brady is in control of the offensive unit, then the Patriots are always in position to win the AFC East. Running back Corey Dillon is coming off a season filled with nagging injuries and is looking to make a strong showing this season. The Patriots have also added some serious talent with receiver Chad Jackson (Florida) and HB Laurence Maroney (Minn).

Weaknesses

• The Patriots lost experience in the receiving corps with the departure of David Givens, Andre Davis, and TE Christian Fauria. This may show up if the run game has another sub-par season. The run game all depends on the health of Corey Dillon. Balance is the key for the Pats, and if the run can return, then the offense will be back on track.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• The defensive line will be the anchor of this unit as they return Richard Seymour, Vince Wilfork, and Ty Warren. These three together represent one of the best lines in football. Don't forget that hard-hitting, game-changing safety Rodney Harrison makes his return from a knee injury and should be ready to boost the defense.

Weaknesses

• Being the best has its price and the Patriots lose their second defensive coordinator in consecutive years with the departure of Eric Mangini. Add losing the veteran leadership of LB Willie McGinest and things could get rough this year. The Pats are still looking for a solid corner and need help in the secondary.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Reche Caldwell	Chargers	WR	6'0"	215
FA	NA	Martin Gramatica	Buccaneers	K	5'8"	170
FA	NA	Eric Warfield	Chiefs	CB	6'0"	200
Rookie	1	Laurence Maroney	Minnesota	RB	6'0"	216
Rookie	2	Chad Jackson	Florida	WR	6'1"	212

Playing As: New England Patriots

1. The Patriots are a balanced and well-coached team on both sides of the ball.
2. When playing with the Patriots, make sure you use a balance of plays and attack all areas of the field both running and passing.
3. On defense the Patriots are not the fastest, but they are very sound in what they do, so attack using a lot of different zones.

Playing Against: New England Patriots

1. There is no glaring weakness in Patriots' offense, but there has to be a way to get to them. Their offense can move the ball with the best of them so you must take advantage of every opportunity you get.
2. When facing the Patriots' defense you must beat them with speed and make sure to also run routes that attack the weak areas in the zones.

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Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

- **Position:** WR 3
- **Substitution:** Chad Jackson
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** We keep Jackson set as our slot receiver. His speed will cause a mismatch with any defender on him unless the defense put its number-one or -two corner against him, and if they do this, we have an advantage with our number-one or -two receiver.

- **Position:** TE
- **Substitution:** Ben Watson
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** Ben Watson and Daniel Graham are rated the same but Watson is more of a threat in the passing game than Graham. We recommend this substitution if you plan to pass more.

- **Position:** CB 3 (NB)
- **Substitution:** Eric Warfield
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** Warfield doesn't have the best speed, so we put him in the nickel position and let him use his wisdom to outplay the slot receiver and solidify our secondary.

Fantasy Outlook

- **Star:** Tom Brady
- **Draft:** 3rd round
- **2006 Outlook:** How often do you hear his name come up in the first three rounds of a fantasy draft? The truth is he one of the best at putting up passing yardage.

- **Star:** Deion Branch
- **Draft:** 5th round
- **2006 Outlook:** Somebody has to be on the receiving end of all those throws by Brady and that receiver in Deion Branch. Expect him to pick up 1,200 receiving yards and 10 TDs this season.

Star Players

Tom Brady • Quarterback (QB) #12

Showcase Plays for Brady

Singleback-Big



SE Post

• Tom Brady is a general on the football field and one of the plays out of the Singleback-Big formation that we like to use him in is the SE Post. The play begins and the routes develop fast. The TE is one of Brady's favorite targets, and he delivers the pinpoint accurate pass to him.

Shotgun-5WR



WR Comeback

• Accuracy is an asset that Brady has in excess. He is one of the best passers in the NFL and has no problem putting the ball wherever he wants it. In this play we let our receiver get good position on the corner and then Brady delivers the pass to a spot where only our receiver can catch it.



Key Attributes

Awareness	98
Overall	98
Throwing Power	92
Throwing Accuracy	96

There's only one quarterback in the NFL that can be mentioned ahead of Peyton Manning without causing a debate. Last year Brady took over a lot more in the offense with a little game planning and the Patriots rose to another playoff appearance. With a one-year absence from the Super Bowl, the Patriots led by Brady are set for another run.

Richard Seymour • Defensive End (RE) #93

Showcase Plays for Seymour

Dime-Normal



2 Man Under

• The Dime-Normal 2 Man Under gives Richard Seymour a chance to showcase his skills versus any offensive lineman. At the snap of the ball, Seymour uses his strength to overpower the offensive tackle and then rush into the backfield to stop the running back in his tracks.

Quarter-Normal



Double X

• Another play that gives Seymour the chance to shine is Double X from the Quarter-Normal formation. Seymour takes an outside angle and does a swim move around the offensive lineman. Once around the tackle, he has the quarterback in his sights and takes him down for the sack.



Key Attributes

Speed	72
Strength	92
Awareness	88
Tackling	88

The Patriots realized the type of impact player Richard Seymour is and rewarded him this off-season with a new contract. Seymour is a force up front and can bully an offensive lineman and take control of the line. His strength is his best attribute and can be used to get great push into the backfield and disrupt passing or run plays.

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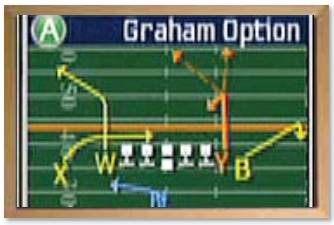
Key Offensive Plays

A	B	C
I-Form Normal	Singleback-Big 3TE	Singleback-Big 3TE
1st, 2nd, 3rd	1st, 2nd, 3rd	—



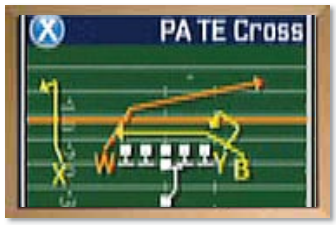
• HB Dive

Corey Dillon is great at running dives and takes this run between the guard and center upfield for a seven-yard gain. We use this play often and can control the clock with it. I know you've heard of Clock Killin Corey Dillon.



• Graham Option

We like to use this play to establish Ben Watson as a pass threat in the game. He is assigned a corner route and once the ball is hiked, he gets off the line quickly and is into the secondary going up to make the catch.



• PA TE Cross

With this play we look to get our third tight end into the game. The TE Cross is a great play. Once a team is worried about our top two tight ends, we sneak rookie tight end David Thomas by on his drag route.







Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Singleback-Empty 5WR	Cross Ups, Curl Flats, Patriot Screen, Smash Fork	I Form-Normal	HB Dive, HB Blast, HB Counter Wk, HB Toss
Shotgun-Twin TE Trips	WR Option, Curl Flat, TE Corner, Slot Cross	Singleback-Big	HB Counter Trap, HB Stretch, HB Pitch, HB Draw

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Daniel Koppen	88	88	54	86
C	Russ Hochstein	82	88	51	81
FB	Patrick Pass	88	69	85	68
FB	Heath Evans	83	66	80	63
HB	Corey Dillon	89	79	87	90
HB	Kevin Faulk	82	62	89	85
HB	Laurence Maroney	82	64	90	55
LG	Logan Mankins	87	91	57	77
LG	Ross Tucker	81	89	53	78
LG	Gene Mruczkowski	65	83	49	55
LT	Matt Light	90	90	52	92
LT	Nick Kaczur	70	92	52	52
QB	Tom Brady	98	62	60	98
QB	Matt Cassel	70	62	64	62
QB	Corey Bramlet	63	55	59	53

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
RG	Stephen Neal	84	89	54	77
RG	Billy Yates	65	82	54	46
RT	Brandon Gorin	80	91	53	78
RT	Wesley Britt	70	82	60	64
TE	Ben Watson	86	70	88	69
TE	Daniel Graham	86	73	82	69
TE	David Thomas	75	67	78	60
WR	Deion Branch	88	50	94	86
WR	Troy Brown	83	45	89	91
WR	Reche Caldwell	80	52	90	75
WR	Chad Jackson	78	50	94	52
WR	Zuriel Smith	63	45	90	50

Coaching Profile

Bill Belichick

- **Head Coaching Year:** 7th with the Patriots.
- **Experience:** Belichick owns a 10-1 mark in the postseason, making Vince Lombardi's 9-1 record second in NFL history.

Belichick has molded the Patriots into one of the elite teams in the NFL, winning three Super Bowls in the past four seasons.

Detailed Package Info

New England Patriots

- **Formation:** I Form-Twin TE
- **Package:** TE Swap
- **Play:** WR Post
- **Advantage:** Swapping the TE lets us get Ben Watson on the outside so we can take advantage of his speed.

- **Formation:** Shotgun-4WR
- **Package:** TE Slot
- **Play:** Watson Option In
- **Advantage:** This package lets us bring our backup TE in as the slot receiver. Great option to get a physical advantage over a smaller DB.

- **Formation:** Nickel-2-4-5
- **Package:** DE Pass Rush
- **Play:** Tiger Pinch Lock
- **Advantage:** We get to keep Richard Seymour on the field with this formation and make the blitz a little harder to deal with than when using OLBs to rush from the end.

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Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

Fans are happy with the affordable food prices. Fans are generally happy with our merchandise prices. We should think about using some of the cap room we've got. We're very competitive with our coaching salaries.

Team Salary: 70.9M
Cap Room: 34.5M
Key Rival: Buffalo Bills
NFL Icons:
- Corey Dillon, Tedy Bruschi, Tom Brady, Richard Seymour

Team Morale: Good
Philosophy:
- Offense: West Coast
- Defense: Contain Passing

Prestige: High
Team Needs:
- Wide Receiver
- Offensive Line

Highest Paid Players:
- Tom Brady
- Corey Dillon

Up and Coming Players:
- Laurence Maroney
- Ellis Hobbs

Team Trivia

New England Patriots Facts

Answers are on the following page.

1 To whom did the Patriots lose on opening day 2003?

2 In Foxboro during the 2004 season, the Patriots played their first game against the Colts. How many interceptions did Tom Brady throw?

Key Defensive Plays

A Nickel-2-4-5

2nd, 3rd



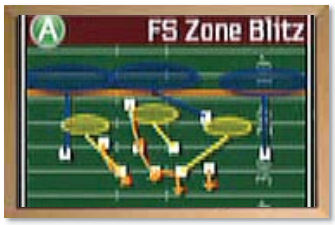
• DBL Smoke

In the DBL Smoke Tedy Bruschi lines up at times over the center, but at the hike he loops and blitzes through the "B" gap. Bruschi comes in so fast that the quarterback can't react and has to take the sack.



B Nickel-1-5-5

—



• FS Zone Blitz

The Zone Blitz gives Richard Seymour a chance to showcase his pass rush skills. He starts this play in a standing position, and at the snap takes a wide angle around the tackle and is throwing the quarterback down to the ground in no time.



C 3-4-Under

—



• Scalp Oscar Fire

Banta-Cain brings nice pressure around the edge of the defense and forces the quarterback into a bad throw as he rounds the corner with his hands up to bat the ball down.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
Nickel-2-4-5	Under Smoke, Tite DBL Smoke, CB Fox Blitz, Pats Fire Lock On	**3-4-Under**	Cover 2, Drop Zone Tag, 2 Man Under, Cover 3
3-4-Over	Pats Fire 3, Cross Fire Chuck, Smoke Pinch 0, DBL Outs Slam	**Nickel-1-5-5**	Cover 2, Tite Zone Blitz, Cover 2 Sink, Cover 3

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Asante Samuel	85	45	91	80
CB	Eric Warfield	81	50	86	83
CB	Ellis Hobbs	80	45	91	75
CB	Randall Gay	79	60	88	72
CB	Hank Poteat	64	45	90	56
DT	Vince Wilfork	89	92	64	72
DT	Johnathan Sullivan	79	84	64	62
DT	Dan Klecko	78	82	66	70
DT	Le Kevin Smith	69	82	59	52
FS	Eugene Wilson	89	63	90	79
FS	Guss Scott	64	56	87	50
LE	Ty Warren	87	85	68	77
LE	Marquise Hill	76	81	65	45
LOLB	Tully Banta-Cain	77	71	78	74
LOLB	Eric Alexander	71	75	72	59

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
MLB	Mike Vrabel	90	82	74	91
MLB	Tedy Bruschi	89	78	74	96
MLB	Monty Beisel	78	74	76	78
RE	Richard Seymour	97	92	72	88
RE	Jarvis Green	84	84	68	67
ROLB	Rosevelt Colvin	89	79	80	85
ROLB	Freddie Roach	62	68	74	46
SS	Rodney Harrison	94	74	82	94
SS	Tebucky Jones	78	58	88	70
SS	James Sanders	75	70	82	64

Special Teams

K	Martin Gramatica	76	10	53	79
P	Josh Miller	90	33	52	84

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Boston | **Starting Year:** 1960 | **League:** AFC

Franchise Beginnings

The Patriots were charter members of the American Football League in 1960 and were known as the Boston Patriots until 1971. The nickname "Patriots" was selected by a panel of Boston sportswriters in a contest to name the team. Although the team made two Super Bowl appearances in the 1980s and 1990s, it wasn't until 2001 when the arrival of Bill Belichick the current head coach and the emergence of quarterback Tom Brady turned the Patriots into the most dominant team of this decade.

Notable Moments

• Super Bowl XXXVI

On February 3, 2002, the Patriots won its first-ever Super Bowl with a nail-biting 20-17 win over the St. Louis Rams. With less than two minutes left in the game, quarterback Tom Brady engineered a brilliant passing drive that set up a 48-yard field goal by Adam Vinatieri.

• Super Bowl XXXVIII

On February 1, 2004, the Patriots won its second Super Bowl title in three years with a 32-29 victory over the Carolina Panthers. Once again, it was a late-game 41-yard field goal by Adam Vinatieri that accounted for the margin of victory.

Notable Figures



Al Messerschmidt/WireImage.com

John Hannah ('62-'68)

In 1991, Hannah became the first Patriot elected to the Hall of Fame. The team selected him as the fourth player overall in the 1973 NFL draft, and over 12 seasons, Hannah became one of football's elite offensive guards. He finished his career on a high note with an appearance in Super Bowl XX.

Mike Haynes ('76-'82)

Haynes was the Patriots' first selection in the 1976 NFL draft and played for seven years in New England. Haynes relied on his speed, quickness, and range to become a premier defensive back and an outstanding punt return specialist. He was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1997.

Steve Grogan ('75-'90)

Grogan played quarterback in 149 games during his 16-year playing career from 1975 through 1990. He set Patriots passing records with 26,886 pass yards and 182 touchdown passes. He ranks third in team history with 12 rushing touchdowns in 1976—a single-season record that remains unsurpassed by any quarterback in NFL history.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• Before the Patriots moved its stadium to the town of Foxboro, Mass., the team played at **five different sites**, including: Boston University Field, Harvard Stadium, Fenway Park, Boston College Alumni Stadium—and even one "home" game at Legion Field in Birmingham, Ala.

• At a preseason game against the Washington Redskins on Aug. 16, 1970, Patriots fans were **forced from the stands** onto the field because of a fire that ignited under the bleachers.

• The Patriots have retired eight numbers: **#20** (Gino Cappelletti), **#40** (Mike Haynes), **#56** (Andre Tippett), **#57** (Steve Nelson), **#73** (John Hannah), **#78** (Bruce Armstrong), **#79** (Jim Lee Hunt), and **#89** (Bob Dee).

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:
Drew Bledsoe ('93-'01) **2,544**

• Passing Yards:
Drew Bledsoe ('93-'01) **29,657**

• Passing Touchdowns:
Drew Bledsoe ('93-'01) **182**

• Receptions:
Stanley Morgan ('77-'89) **534**

• Receiving Yards:
Stanley Morgan ('77-'89) **10,352**

• Receiving Touchdowns:
Stanley Morgan ('77-'89) **67**

• Rushing Yards:
Sam Cunningham ('73-'82) **5,453**

• Rushing Touchdowns:
Jim Nance ('65-'71) **45**

• Career Points Leader:
Gino Cappelletti ('60-'70) **1,130**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:
Andre Tippett ('82-'93) **100**

• Interceptions:
Raymond Clayborn ('77-'89) **36**
Ty Law ('95-'05) **36**

Team Trivia

Answers

1 Ex-Patriots Drew Bledsoe and Lawyer Milloy humiliated their ex-teammates by the score of 31-0.

2 One. The Patriots won this game 27-24. The Colts' kicker, Mike Vanderjagt, missed the field goal to tie the game and send it into overtime.

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OAKLAND RAIDERS

Division: AFC West | **Stadium:** McAfee Coliseum | **Type:** Open | **Capacity:** 63,132 | **Surface:** Grass



2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
4	12	0	290	383	2-6	2-6	2-10	2-2	0-6

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	86
Offense	88
Defense	83

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Team Rankings

Scoring	23rd
Passing Offense	10th
Rushing Offense	29th
Passing Defense	18th
Rushing Defense	25th
Turnovers	29th

TEAM STRATEGY

Playing As: Oakland Raiders

1. Send the Raiders' receivers deep and air the ball out often. Moss and company have too much speed for most defensive secondaries to handle.

2. With the defense obsessed with stopping the Oakland Raiders' receivers, LaMont Jordan will find plenty of running lanes to pick up yardage on the ground.

3. If nothing opens up downfield, take off and run with Aaron Brooks.

Playing Against: Oakland Raiders

1. You have to pick your poison against the Raider offensive attack. Do you drop the safeties back to take away the deep pass, or do you bring them up near the line of scrimmage to stop the run? We prefer to defend the pass.

2. Have a linebacker spy Aaron Brooks on passing downs.

3. Rotate pass coverage toward Moss to try to keep him in check.

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• The Raiders have the speed at receiver to go deep and they also have the quarterback to get the ball downfield. Randy Moss, Jerry Porter, and Doug Gabriel are debatably the best trio of receivers in the league. New QB Aaron Brooks has a live arm and the athletic ability to avoid the pass rush. LaMont Jordan had a solid first season.

Weaknesses

• Brooks needs to use his scrambling ability because there are leaky holes in the offensive line. Last year the Raiders' offensive line allowed 39 sacks. That number is way too high and will be unacceptable to head coach Art Shell. Randy Moss must remain healthy. Over the last two seasons he has missed his share of games.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• Defensive end Derrick Burgess earned his pay by recording a league high 16 sacks. Last years third round draft pick Kirk Morrison did an outstanding job at tackling the ball carrier. He led the team in tackles with a 116. Danny Clark also did his part by racking up 113 tackles. Rookie cornerback Fabian Washington did a solid job in pass coverage, but he had no interceptions.

Weaknesses

• The Raiders' defense had five interceptions. Michael Huff was drafted in the first round to bring some much needed playmaking ability to the secondary. Outside of Burgess, there was no other real pass rushing threat on the defense. If you take away the 16 sacks Burgess had, the Raiders would only have a total of 20 sacks.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Aaron Brooks	Saints	QB	6'4"	220
FA	NA	Lance Johnstone	Vikings	DE	6'4"	253
FA	NA	Robert Thomas	Packers	LB	6'0"	233
Rookie	1	Michael Huff	Texas	S	6'1"	205
Rookie	2	Thomas Howard	UTEP	LB	6'3"	225

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LaMont Jordan • Running Back (RB) #34

Showcase Plays for Jordan

Singleback-Big



HB Belly Weak

• The HB Belly Weak has big play potential written all over it. Jordan takes a quick cut toward the right side of the offensive line before cutting back hard to the left behind the pulling guard. If the right guard makes the correct block, there is a good chance to spring Jordan for a big gainer.

Weak I-Normal



Counter Trap

• Here is another misdirection play that has big play potential for Jordan if the blocks are set up correctly. The left guard pulls to the right along with the fullback. If both engage a defender to seal off the outside, Jordan will find plenty of green pasture to run the ball outside for positive yardage.



Key Attributes

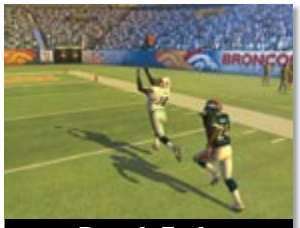
Awareness	85
Agility	86
Break Tackle	89
Speed	89

The Raiders finally got a back who can carry the load when called upon. With his bruising style of running, LaMont Jordan looks to improve on last year's numbers. This especially holds true if Moss stays healthy for the entire season, because opposing defenses will not be able to put eight or nine defenders in the box to defend against the run.

Randy Moss • Wide Receiver (WR) #18

Showcase Plays for Moss

Singleback-Trips Bunch



Bunch Fade

• One the most-used plays in the Oakland Raiders playbook is back again in 2007. What makes this play so special is the fade route that Moss is running. If the defense plays Cover 0 coverage, the first option should be Moss. As soon as he gets a few steps on his man, lob the ball over the top to Moss for a huge pickup.

Weak I-Twin WR



Raiders Fade

• This is another great play to call against any type of coverage, especially with Moss running the deep post route. If the defense plays any type of Cover 2, wait for Moss to break to the post and throw a bullet pass to him. Moss will use his height and jumping ability to snag the ball from any defender in his area.



Key Attributes

Awareness	89
Acceleration	97
Catching	95
Speed	98

Randy Moss has been slowed by injury the last couple of years and his stats have shown it. Still, he remains one of the top-five receivers in the game and commands double coverage. Expect Moss to put up high numbers in 2006 as his nagging injuries look to be in the past.

Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

• **Position:** DT
• **Substitution:** Bobby Hamilton
• **When:** Global
• **Advantage:** Bobby Hamilton is little on the slow side as a defensive end, but if moved inside next to strong side defensive tackle Warren Sapp, he can be a force as a pass rusher.

• **Position:** SS
• **Substitution:** Michael Huff
• **When:** Global
• **Advantage:** Michael Huff is way too talented to be riding the pine in a silver and black uniform. Move him to strong safety and watch him make play after play as one of the Raider's top defensive playmakers.

• **Position:** KR/PR
• **Substitution:** Rod Smart
• **When:** Global
• **Advantage:** Rod Smart needs to get on the field somehow. With the Raiders' backfield already secure, moving Smart to the team's primary kick and punt returner slots is a solid move.

Fantasy Outlook

• **Star:** Randy Moss
• **Draft:** 3rd round
• **2005 Outlook:** Injuries over the last two seasons have kept his numbers down. If he can stay healthy all of 2006, he will be one of the top fantasy receivers.

• **Star:** LaMont Jordan
• **Draft:** 1st round
• **2005 Outlook:** Scored 11 touchdowns last season despite the offense being inconsistent. He led all running backs in catches with 70.

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Coaching Profile

Art Shell

- **Head Coaching Year:** 7th
- **Experience:** Head coach of the Raiders from 1989 to 1994.

This is the second time he has been hired to coach Oakland. His .587 career winning percentage is the highest of any coach hired this off season, and his 54 career victories are more than any other new coach. First African-American head coach in the NFL

Detailed Package Info

Oakland Raiders

- **Formation:** Singleback Trips Bunch
- **Package:** Spell HB
- **Play:** Quick Pitch
- **Advantage:** Justin Fargas has a little more speed than LaMont Jordan, allowing him to get outside easier.

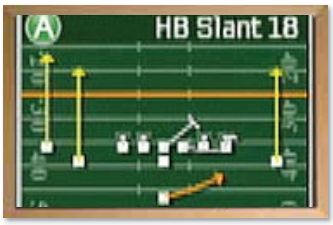
- **Formation:** Singleback Empty 4WR
- **Package:** Stack Weak
- **Play:** WR Clear Outs
- **Advantage:** Randy Moss lines up next to Jerry Porter on the left side. Moss runs a streak and can clear out the coverage for Porter underneath running a post corner.

- **Formation:**Dime-Flats
- **Package:** ROLB
- **Play:** Cover 1 LB Spy
- **Advantage:** This gets the Raiders' fastest linebacker on the field in QB Spy coverage to make sure the opposing quarterback doesn't take off and run.

Key Offensive Plays

A Singleback-Normal Slot

1st, 2nd and short yardage



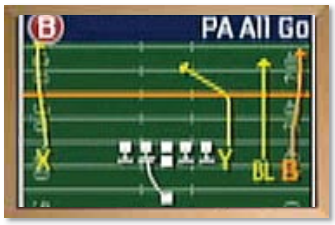
• HB Slant 18

LaMont Jordan should find plenty of room to run the ball. The HB Slant 18 gets Jordan outside quickly with the right guard blocking out in front. The receivers draw their men deep, clearing out even more outside running room for Jordan.



B Singleback-Slot Strong

Any down/distance after run



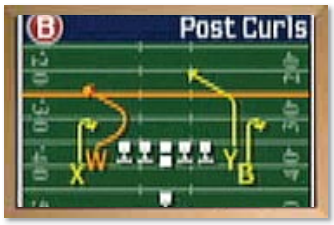
• PA All Go

Even if the defense keeps its safeties back to defend the deep ball, a play action pass can still draw them in. This play sends all four receivers deep. We first look to throw to Randy Moss on the right. He is just too fast for most defensive backs to cover.



C Singleback-Tight

1st & 2nd using pass



• Post Curls

This is an effective play to call on any down because of the quality pass routes. If the defense brings the heat, look for the two receivers running curl routes. If not, look for the receiver on the right running a deep post or the receiver on the left running a C route.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Split Backs-Close	Drive, Mesh, Slants, Raider Switch	**I Form-Twin TE**	HB Lead Dive, HB Blast, HB Lead, FB Dive
Singleback-Tight	Slot Out, PA Slot Drag, HB Slip Left, Safety Bait	**Singleback-Normal Slot**	HB Counter Trap, HB Dive, HB Slant 18, HB Draw

2005–06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Jake Grove	83	87	55	75
C	Adam Treu	79	86	49	75
FB	Zack Crockett	86	81	84	74
HB	LaMont Jordan	90	77	89	85
HB	Justin Fargas	76	63	94	65
HB	DeJuan Green	72	66	89	42
HB	Rod Smart	67	60	91	52
LG	Barry Sims	88	87	54	86
LG	Cameron Spikes	75	88	45	74
LT	Robert Gallery	88	92	59	77
LT	Chad Slaughter	61	78	45	60
QB	Aaron Brooks	84	62	72	73
QB	Andrew Walter	78	60	54	68
QB	Marques Tuiasosopo	75	63	71	66
RG	Brad Badger	79	88	47	80

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
RG	Corey Hulsey	73	85	50	68
RT	Langston Walker	81	93	46	75
RT	Brad Lekkerkerker	67	86	49	60
TE	Courtney Anderson	76	66	79	66
TE	Marcellus Rivers	70	65	70	62
TE	Randal Williams	64	51	87	62
WR	Randy Moss	97	55	98	89
WR	Jerry Porter	89	68	92	81
WR	Ronald Curry	79	55	88	73
WR	Doug Gabriel	77	62	88	68
WR	Johnnie Morant	70	64	86	55
WR	Alvis Whitted	68	43	92	63

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Key Defensive Plays

A 4-3-Under

1st & 2nd to get the QB



• Crash Right

This play is a solid all-purpose defense to use against any base offensive formation. The defensive line crashes to the right side. All it takes is for one of them to miss his block and one of the defenders will be in position to make the tackle on the ball carrier.



B Nickel-Normal

1st & 2nd to get the QB



• 4 Across

A good defense to call in third and long situations because the Raiders' defensive backs are dropping back in four-deep coverage. This type of coverage keeps the receivers in front and helps prevent against the deep ball being completed.



C Dime-Flat

3rd and long yardage pass



• Zone Blitz

This defense sends the inside defensive back on blitz on the right side of the field. If the quarterback drops too far back, he will be in position to make a sack or force a bad pass.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
4-3-Over	Engage Eight, Fire Man, SS Blitz, LB Dogs	**4-3-Normal**	2 Man Under, 4 Deep DT Twist, LB Contain, Over 3 Strong
Quarter-3 Deep	3 Deep Blitz, Overload Blitz, 2 Deep Blitz, Strike	**Dime-Flat**	2 Man Under, Cover 1 LB Spy, Cover 2, 4 Deep Safe

2005–06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Tyrone Poole	81	44	90	86
CB	Nnamdi Asomugha	80	65	90	69
CB	Fabian Washington	79	46	98	63
CB	Duane Starks	78	40	91	78
CB	Stanford Routt	74	48	95	56
CB	Chris Carr	62	42	93	47
DT	Warren Sapp	86	82	65	88
DT	Tommy Kelly	78	82	64	61
DT	Terdell Sands	71	92	48	64
FS	Stuart Schweigert	84	59	89	73
FS	Michael Huff	84	62	93	62
LE	Bobby Hamilton	83	82	65	86
LE	Tyler Brayton	82	77	70	70
LOLB	Kirk Morrison	87	79	78	75
LOLB	Sam Williams	74	70	80	67
LOLB	Ryan Riddle	67	67	77	53
MLB	Danny Clark	87	77	80	83
MLB	Isaiah Ekejiuba	56	75	76	50
RE	Derrick Burgess	90	73	79	82
RE	Lance Johnstone	84	67	79	84
ROLB	Robert Thomas	78	68	79	75
ROLB	Thomas Howard	77	75	87	55
ROLB	Grant Irons	60	77	70	60
SS	Derrick Gibson	79	62	87	67
SS	Jarrod Cooper	74	68	85	69

Special Teams

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
K	Sebastian Janikowski	87	55	64	69
P	Shane Lechler	99	33	59	85

Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

Our stadium maintenance bills are near the league average. We've got cap room. Now's not the time to be cheap. Merchandise prices are right where they should be. The playoff drought is hurting our bottom line.

Team Salary: 73.0M
Cap Room: 32.4M
Key Rival: Denver Broncos
NFL Icons:
- Randy Moss

Philosophy:
- Offense: West Coast
- Defense: Contain Passing

Prestige: Low
Team Needs:
- Linebacker
- Defensive Back

Highest Paid Players:
- Robert Gallery
- Randy Moss

Up and Coming Players:
- Michael Huff
- Kirk Morrison

Team Trivia

Oakland Raiders Facts

Answers are on the following page.

❶ As of 2001, who holds the Raider single-season interception record?

❷ Which Raider was called "The Assassin"?

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Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:
Rich Gannon ('99-'04) **1,533**

• Passing Yards:
Ken Stabler ('70-'79) **19,078**

• Passing Touchdowns:
Ken Stabler ('70-'79) **150**

• Receptions:
Tim Brown ('83-'03) **1,070**

• Receiving Yards:
Tim Brown ('83-'03) **14,734**

• Receiving Touchdowns:
Tim Brown ('83-'03) **99**

• Rushing Yards:
Marcus Allen ('82-'92) **8,545**

• Rushing Touchdowns:
Marcus Allen ('82-'92) **79**

• Career Points Leader:
George Blanda ('67-'75) **863**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:
Greg Townsend ('83-'93) **109.5**

• Interceptions:
Willie Brown ('67-'78) **39**
Lester Hayes ('77-'86) **39**

Team Trivia

Answers

❶ Lester Hayes. Lester was a big reason Stickum was banned in the NFL.

❷ Nobody hit harder than Jack Tatum.

FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Oakland, CA | **Starting Year:** 1960 | **League:** AFC

Franchise Beginnings

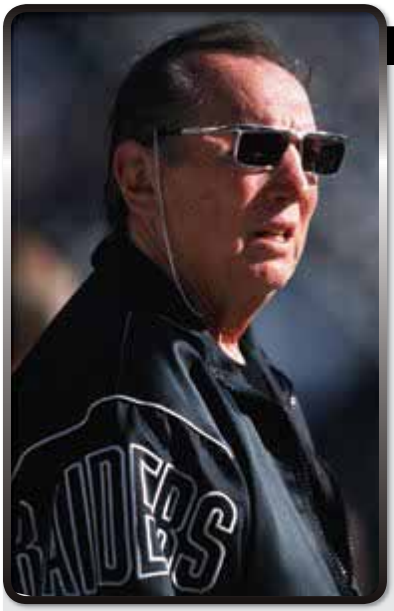
The Raiders emerged in 1960 as a member of the AFL and an amazingly successful team, logging winning records in 19 of its first 20 seasons and triumphing in three Super Bowls. Under owner Al Davis, the Raiders from 1963 through 1992 posted a winning percentage of .661 and a record of 285-146-11—a stat that ranks as the best among all major sports teams. From 1982 through 1994, the franchise moved to Los Angeles but returned to its original hometown of Oakland in 1995.

Notable Moments

• Super Bowl XI
On January 9, 1977, Oakland defeated the Minnesota Vikings 32-14 at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Calif., for the team's first-ever Super Bowl title. Raiders wide receiver Fred Biletnikoff was named the game's MVP with four key receptions that netted a total of 79 yards.

• Super Bowl XVIII
The Raiders won their last NFL title on January 22, 1984. The team ran over the Washington Redskins 38-9, which at the time was the most lopsided victory ever in a Super Bowl. Game MVP running back Marcus Allen rushed for 191 yards.

Notable Figures



Allen Kee/WireImage.com

Al Davis ('63-'65, '66-'05)

Davis is the only person to have served pro football as a player personnel assistant, an assistant coach, a head coach, a general manager, a league commissioner, and the owner and CEO of an NFL team (he's the owner of the Raiders). He was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1992.

Art Shell ('68-'82)

Inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1989, Shell is regarded as one of the NFL's best all-time offensive linemen. Along with fellow Hall of Fame guard Gene Upshaw, the two helped anchor the Raiders offense in the 1970s. Shell later went on to become the first African-American head coach in the NFL's modern era.

Howie Long ('81-'93)

From 1981-1993, Long terrorized opposing quarterbacks as one of the league's top defensive ends. Long was named the NFL Defensive Lineman of the Year in 1984 and was selected to eight Pro Bowl appearances. Inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2000, Long is currently a TV pro football analyst.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• Although more than 10 Raiders players are in the Hall of Fame, **no uniform numbers** have ever been retired by the team.

• The Raiders' original colors were **black**, **gold**, and **white**.

• **John Madden** (the namesake of the video game featured in this book) coached the Raiders from 1969-1978.

• Oakland actually played its first-ever "home" game at San Francisco's **Kezar Stadium** in 1960.

• Bo Jackson has the longest run in Oakland Raiders' history. He ripped off a 92-yard run on November 5, 1989 vs. the Cincinnati Bengals.

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ST.LOUIS RAMS

Division: NFC West | **Stadium:** Edward Jones Dome | **Type:** Dome | **Capacity:** 66,000 | **Surface:** Turf

2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
6	10	0	363	429	3-5	3-5	3-1	3-9	1-5

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	87
Offense	89
Defense	84

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Team Rankings

Scoring	11th
Passing Offense	4th
Rushing Offense	22nd
Passing Defense	23rd
Rushing Defense	28th
Turnovers	20th

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• The Rams still have one of most potent offenses in the game despite former head coach Mike Martz moving on. With quarterback Marc Bulger, running backs Steven Jackson and Marshall Faulk, plus receivers Torry Holt, Isaac Bruce, and Kevin Curtis, the Rams can light up the scoreboard in a hurry.

Weaknesses

• There really isn't a major weakness on offensive side of ball. The Rams drafted two tight ends to help take the pressure off of the receivers on the outside. The offensive line is solid with Orlando Pace leading the way. If there are weaknesses, it's depth at quarterback and the interior offensive line.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• Defensive end Leonard Little is a one-man wrecking crew. Little is a dominant pass rusher who forces opposing offenses to account for him at all times. He led the team with 9.5 sacks last season. La'Roi Glover has been brought in to add a pass rush up the middle. Pisa Tinoisamoa is the team's most consistent linebacker with 95 tackles in 2005.

Weaknesses

• Last year the defense had a hard time stopping the run because the defensive tackles couldn't hold up at the point of attack. This forced the safeties to play closer to line of scrimmage to defend against the run. With the safeties up near the line of scrimmage, the cornerbacks were often left alone on an island where they had trouble defending receivers in one-on-one cover-

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Corey Chavous	Vikings	S	6'1"	206
FA	NA	La'Roi Glover	Cowboys	DT	6'2"	282
FA	NA	Todd Steussie	Buccaneers	OT	6'6"	320
Rookie	1	Tye Hill	Clemson	CB	5'10"	180
Rookie	2	Joe Klopfenstein	Colorado	TE	6'6"	245



Playing As: St.Louis Rams

1. Run the ball with Steven Jackson behind left tackle Orlando Pace. Pace is the team's best offensive linemen and will provide holes to run through.
2. When throwing the ball, call plays that feature three receiver sets. Torry Holt, Isaac Bruce, and Kevin Curtis are the best trio of receivers in the NFC.
3. Be sure to package Faulk in the backfield or in the slot to force the defense to account for him when he is on the field.

Playing Against: St.Louis Rams

1. Bring the heat on Marc Bulger, who tends to be injury prone. If he gets knocked out of the game, the Rams passing game will suffer greatly.
2. Don't let Steven Jackson run over your defense. When the Rams come out in base sets, bring a safety down in the box to help stop him.
3. Watch out for LE Leonard Little coming off the edge. He makes most right tackles look bad with his pass rush skills.

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Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

- **Position:** HB
- **Substitution**: Mike Anderson
- **When:** Passing situations
- **Advantage:** The biggest advantage would be to give Lewis a chance to rest and be more effective late in the game.

- **Position:** DT
- **Substitution:** Haloti Ngata
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage**: He may only be a rookie, but he is the team's best defensive tackle in the game. On the Ravens' depth chart, he sits at number three. He needs to be moved up to number one before you play any games with Baltimore.

- **Position:** CB
- **Substitution:** David Pittman
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** David Pittman is not ready to be a starting cornerback for the Ravens just yet, but he is ready to be the nickel back. Move him up to the number-three spot at cornerback and you won't be sorry.

Fantasy Outlook

- **Star:** Torry Holt
- **Draft:** 1st round
- **2005 Outlook:** With a shift from a primary passing offense to a more balanced one, Holt will be hard pressed to put up the same numbers as he did last season.

- **Star:** Steven Jackson
- **Draft: 1st** round
- **2005 Outlook:** Jackson looks to have a breakout season. Anything less than 1,500 yards and 12 touchdowns will be a huge disappointment.

Star Players

Steven Jackson • Halfback (HB) #39



Key Attributes

Awareness	81
Agility	86
Break Tackle	88
Speed	88

With the new head coaching change in St. Louis, Steven Jackson looks to improve on his first 1,000-yard season. Jackson is a powerful runner who uses his size to bowl over defenders. Usually it takes more than one defender to bring Jackson down, which allows him to pick up that extra yard or two that most backs can't get.

Showcase Plays for Jackson

Singleback-Big



HB Slam

• What makes the HB Slam so effective is that it gets the ball into Jackson's hands quickly. Once the handoff is made, look to run between the center and right guard where you can use the new running moves to pick up extra yardage. Expect to pick up 3-5 yards a pop with this play.

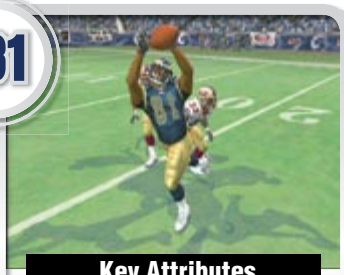
Split Backs Normal



HB Sweep

• This classic sweep play gets Jackson out into open space with blockers out front to pick up yardage. With the left guard pulling to the right and the fullback lead blocking, you can't help but pick up positive yardage when calling this play. Just be sure not to get out in front of your blockers too early or this play won't be as effective

Torry Holt • Wide Receiver (WR) #81



Key Attributes

Acceleration	95
Awareness	97
Catching	98
Speed	93

Torry Holt is all about running precision pass routes, awareness, and discipline. Those three attributes are why he has been so successful in the league. Last season he went over the 1,300-yard mark for the sixth consecutive time. He may not get that many yards this season because the Rams are expected to be more conservative, but he should still get over a grand.

Showcase Plays for Holt

Singleback-Normal



Holt Option

• This play has Holt running a curl as his primary route. He also has the choice of running two option routes based on the coverage he sees. In the screen shot, he decides to run a curl route because the defense is in man coverage. We throw him a bullet pass for 10-yard pick up.

Singleback 4WR Base Flex



Flanker Post

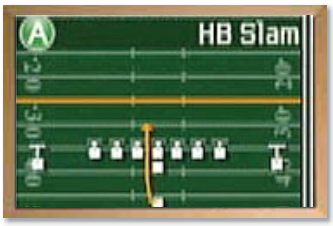
• Holt runs a deep post route and is deadly against Cover 2 zone coverage. Once he breaks over the deep middle, he will split the two safeties. After you spot him open, throw a high bullet pass in his direction. If you don't feel good about controlling him while the ball is in the air, don't worry. He won't let you down

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Key Offensive Plays

A Singleback-Big

1st & 2nd throw deep pass



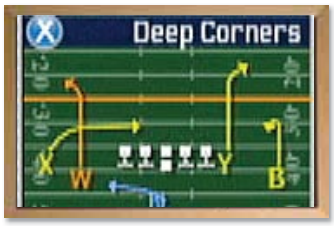
• HB Slam

Steven Jackson is a powerful downhill runner who cannot be brought down by just one defender. This play is one of the most effective run plays in the entire game. It gets him the ball quickly where he can use his size and strength to run over defenders.



B Singleback-Normal Slot

1st, 2nd and short yardage



• Deep Corner

Kevin Curtis often gets overlooked as the team's third receiver. The Slot Deep Corner showcases his speed by having him run a corner route. Once he breaks to the corner, he uses his speed to gain separation from the defender.



C Singleback-Trips WR

3rd and long yardage pass



• Comebacks

Isaac Bruce does not possess the same type of speed, but he still runs great pass routes. The WR Comebacks is a good play to call in third and long situations. Once Bruce shows his numbers, rifle him a bullet pass. Expect a gain of 10-12 yards.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Shotgun-Empty Trips	Empty Stick, Curl Flats, Option X Hitch.	**Split Backs-Normal**	HB Draw, HB Blast, HB Sweep, Quick Toss
Singleback-Trips Bunch	PA Pin Deep, Spacing Switch, Flood Right	**Singleback-Big**	HB Slam, HB Power, Rams 25 Cutback, HB Delay

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Andy McCollum	83	87	46	90
C	Larry Turner	69	84	44	67
FB	Madison Hedgecock	73	61	71	59
HB	Steven Jackson	88	75	88	81
HB	Marshall Faulk	85	66	88	95
HB	Tony Fisher	79	69	87	72
LG	Claude Terrell	82	91	54	74
LG	Mark Setterstrom	71	82	52	60
LT	Orlando Pace	97	95	55	96
LT	Drew Strojny	67	91	50	55
QB	Marc Bulger	90	48	57	90
QB	Gus Frerotte	78	52	52	80
QB	Ryan Fitzpatrick	71	54	60	66
RG	Richie Incognito	73	86	61	45
RG	Adam Timmerman	88	90	46	93

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
RT	Alex Barron	84	90	60	74
RT	Todd Steussie	82	89	51	89
TE	Joe Klopfenstein	79	67	83	66
TE	Dominique Byrd	78	69	74	49
TE	Jerome Collins	74	58	81	60
TE	Aaron Walker	68	66	71	64
WR	Torry Holt	97	55	93	97
WR	Isaac Bruce	89	42	91	95
WR	Kevin Curtis	85	48	96	79
WR	Shaun McDonald	76	42	93	67
WR	Dane Looker	72	48	87	65



Coaching Profile

Scott Linehan

- **Head Coaching Year:** 1st
- **Experience:** Three seasons as the Vikings' offensive coordinator (2001-2004).

Linehan has earned a reputation as one of the most intelligent and innovative offensive minds in the game. As the Vikings' offensive coordinator, his offense ranked among the top. Last season the Dolphin offense showed dramatic improvement.

Detailed Package Info

St. Louis Rams

- **Formation:** Split Backs-Normal
- **Package:** Dual HB
- **Play:** RB Circles
- **Advantage:** Steven Jackson and Marshall Faulk line up in the backfield together. Both run circle routes, which are deadly against man coverage.

- **Formation:** Singleback-Normal Slot
- **Package:** Slot Strong
- **Play:** Slot Out
- **Advantage:** Torry Holt has the best pair of hands on the team and runs excellent pass routes.

- **Formation:** Dime-3-2-6
- **Package:** MLB/ROLB Swap
- **Play:** Cov 1 FS Robber
- **Advantage:** Pisa Tinoisamoa lines up on the right side and is sent on a delayed blitz. He can use his speed to blow by slower offensive linemen to put pressure on the quarterback.

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Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

Our stadium maintenance costs are a little higher than the norm. Fans are generally happy with our merchandise prices. We've got plenty of room under the cap to make an important hire.

Team Salary: 74.0M
Cap Room: 31.4M
Key Rival: San Francisco 49ers
NFL Icons:
- Torry Holt

Philosophy:
- Offense: West Coast
- Defense: Contain Passing

Prestige: Low
Team Needs:
- Linebacker
- Defensive Back

Highest Paid Players:
- Orlando Pace
- Torry Holt

Up and Coming Players:
- Stephen Jackson
- Brandon Chillar

Team Trivia

St. Louis Rams Facts

Answers are on the following page.

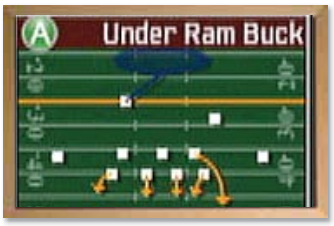
1 Who was the first coach of the St. Louis Rams?

2 In the 2000 Super Bowl, which St. Louis Ram player tackled Tennessee's Kevin Dyson at the 1 yard line on the final play of the game to preserve the Ram's 23-16 victory?

Key Defensive Plays

A 4-3-Under

1st & 2nd base defense



• Under Ram Buck

This play a good defense to call against the run. The left outside linebacker is sent in on a blitz from the right side of the offensive line. Often the tight end and right tackle will have to account for him. This leaves other defenders to tackle the ball carrier.



B 4-3-Over

3rd and 13, in the red zone



• Zone Blitz

This play does a good job at confusing the offensive line by dropping the right end into the flat and blitzing two linebackers. Often the QB will not account for the right end playing pass coverage and will look to throw to back trying to beat the blitz.



C Dime-Normal

3rd and long yardage pass



•Safe 3 Deep

With Leonard Little pressuring the QB, the Rams defense does not have to blitz as often. It also allows them to drop more defenders into pass coverage. This play provides excellent pass coverage, and allows Little to do what he does best.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
4-3-Normal	Free Fire, Slant 1 OLB Fire, Zip Shoot Gut, Hog Buck 3	4-3-Over	2 Man Under, Cover 2, Double X, Cover 4 Buzz
Quarter-Normal	Fire Blitz, Ram Buck 1 Deep, Under Smoke, QB Trap	Quarter-Normal	2 Man Under Spy, Cover 3, QB Contain, Quarter Halves

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Depth Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Skill
CB	Tye Hill	80	44	98	62
CB	Jerametrius Butler	80	46	91	75
CB	Travis Fisher	79	54	91	70
CB	Fakhir Brown	79	63	87	79
CB	Ronald Bartell	76	65	92	59
CB	DeJuan Groce	75	42	90	72
DT	La'Roi Glover	91	85	64	94
DT	Jimmy Kennedy	80	89	57	68
DT	Claude Wroten	73	84	63	49
DT	Brian Howard	59	72	61	54
FS	O.J. Atogwe	76	62	88	61
FS	Dwaine Carpenter	74	60	83	68
LE	Leonard Little	94	77	84	82
LE	Victor Adeyanju	76	70	83	36
LOLB	Brandon Chillar	82	74	78	73

Pos.	Depth Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Skill
LOLB	Raonall Smith	72	64	83	67
LOLB	Drew Wahlroos	66	67	73	58
MLB	Will Witherspoon	89	70	86	85
MLB	Trev Faulk	73	74	76	74
RE	Tony Hargrove	77	67	75	65
RE	Brandon Green	67	71	65	58
ROLB	Pisa Tinoisamoa	88	67	87	75
ROLB	Dexter Coakley	86	72	83	86
ROLB	Jon Alston	76	85	87	46
SS	Corey Chavous	85	54	85	88
Special Teams					
K	Jeff Wilkins	90	19	46	90
P	Matt Turk	80	21	56	90

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Cleveland, OH | **Starting Year:** 1936 | **League:** NFC

Franchise Beginnings

The Rams began playing in 1937 as a second incarnation of the previous Cleveland Rams team that was a charter member of the 1936-37 American Football League. Cleveland attorney Homer Marshman founded the team. The team then became known as the Los Angeles Rams after the club moved to Los Angeles, California in 1946. The Rams then moved to Anaheim Stadium in Anaheim, California in 1980, keeping the Los Angeles name. In 1995, the team moved again, this time to St. Louis, Missouri. They have remained there for the last 11 seasons.

Notable Moments

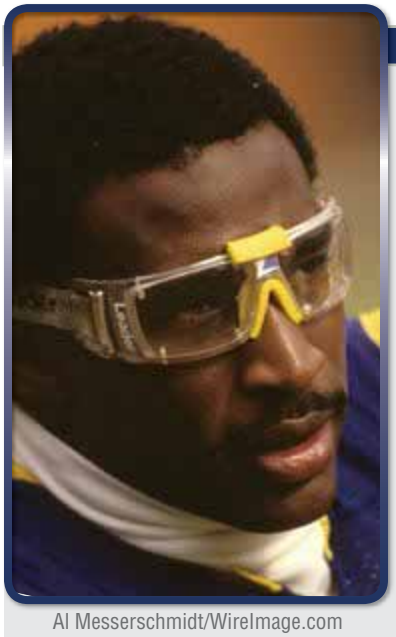
• Jack Youngblood in 1979 Playoffs

In the NFC Divisional Playoff game against the Dallas Cowboys, Jack Youngblood fractured his left fibula, but finished the rest of the game. The Rams won 21-19. His ability to play with pain inspired the Rams throughout the playoffs, and in Super Bowl XIV against the Pittsburgh Steelers.

• Super Bowl XXXIV

On the final play of the Super Bowl XXXIV, St. Louis linebacker Mike Jones tackled Tennessee wide receiver Kevin Dyson one-yard short of the goal line to prevent a game-tying touchdown. The Rams won the game 23-16. This was the Rams' first Super Bowl win and their first NFL championship since 1951. Rams' quarterback Kurt Warner was named the Super Bowl MVP.

Notable Figures



Al Messerschmidt/WireImage.com

Eric Dickerson ('83-'87)

Eric Dickerson gained more than 1,000-yards in each of his first four seasons with the Rams. In three of those seasons, he gained more than 1,800-yards. He led the NFL in rushing four times (1983-84, 1986, 1988), ran for single-season record 2,105 yards in 1984, was 1983 NFC Rookie of Year and an All-Pro six times. (1983, 1984, 1986, 1987, 1988).

David Jones ('61-'71)

Deacon Jones perfected the "head slap" and was a member of "The Fearsome Foursome," considered to one of the best defensive lines the NFL has ever seen. Jones is also credited for coming up with the term "sack." He played in eight Pro Bowls (1965-1971, 1973) and was the NFL Defensive Player of the Year in 1967 and 1968.

Daniel Reeves ('41-'71)

Reeves moved the Rams from Cleveland to Los Angeles in 1946. This opened the door to West Coast sports. He founded the "Free Football for Kids" program and he was the first owner to have a full-time scouting staff. Reeves also signed the first black player (Kenny Washington) since 1933.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• The Rams' name came from the **Fordham University mascot** and the original uniform colors were **red** and **black**.

• The Rams are the first NFL team to move back **east** from the **west**.

• The Rams are the first franchise to win a NFL championship in **three different cities** (Cleveland 1945; Los Angeles 1951; St. Louis 1999).

• The Rams were the first professional team with a **helmet insignia**.

• The Rams became the first NFL team to have all their games—both home and away—televised in 1950.

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Yards:
Jim Everett ('86-'93) **23,758**

• Passing Touchdowns:
Roman Gabriel ('62-'72) **154**

• Receptions:
Isaac Bruce ('94-06) **813**

• Receiving Yards:
Isaac Bruce ('94-06) **12,278**

• Receiving Touchdowns:
Isaac Bruce ('94-06) **77**

• Rushing Yards:
Eric Dickerson ('83-'87) **7,245**

• Career Points Leader:
Mike Lansford ('82-'90) **789**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Interceptions:
Ed Meador ('59-'70) **46**

Team Trivia

Answers

1 Rich Brooks had previously coached at the University of Oregon. He was the St. Louis Rams' coach for two years, 1995 and '96.

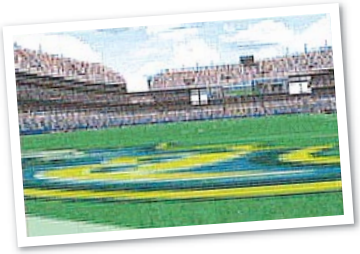
2 Mike Jones.

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BALTIMORE RAVENS

Division: AFC North | **Stadium:** M&T Bank Stadium | **Type:** Open | **Capacity:** 68,915 | **Surface:** Grass



2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
6	10	0	265	299	6-2	0-8	4-8	2-2	2-4

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	88
Offense	89
Defense	90

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Team Rankings

Scoring	25th
Passing Offense	22nd
Rushing Offense	21st
Passing Defense	8th
Rushing Defense	9th
Turnovers	23rd

TEAM STRATEGY

Playing As: Baltimore Ravens

1. The Ravens have two bruising backs in Jamal Lewis and Mike Anderson. Look to pound them inside to wear out the defensive line.

2. Look for Derrick Mason in crucial game situations.

3. The Ravens have two rock-solid defensive ends with a flair for getting to the quarterback. There is no need to blitz as often as other teams.

Playing Against: Baltimore Ravens

1. Load the box with nine defenders to stop the run and force McNair or Boller to beat you with his arm.

2. Despite the Ravens' unstable quarterback situation over the last few seasons, Todd Heap has managed to up put good numbers. He needs extra attention in passing situations.

3. Don't test the Ravens' outstanding starting cornerbacks. Instead, work the middle of the field.

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

•Derrick Mason is the team's first playmaker receiver since Brian Billick began coaching the Ravens. Mark Clayton had a nice first season as a rookie by catching 44 balls and picking up 471 yards. Opposing defenses cannot double up the outside receivers because tight end Todd Heap will make them pay down the middle.

Weaknesses

• Since Billick became head coach of the Ravens seven seasons ago, he has gone through a number of quarterback changes. The Steve McNair trade should help solidify this position. If he gets hurt, they'll have to go with Kyle Boller, who hasn't exactly set the world on fire. Consistency at QB will determine the Ravens' fate.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• It all starts with middle linebacker Ray Lewis, who is the heart and soul of the defense. Defensive ends Trevor Pryce and Terrell Suggs will make the opposing quarterback cringe. Chris McAlister and Samari Rolle form one of the best cornerback tandems in the league with 2004 League Defensive MVP Ed Reed lurking in the secondary.

Weaknesses

• It's hard to find any real weakness in the Ravens' defense. If there is one weakness it's the health of Ray Lewis. Over the last two seasons, the injury bug has hit Lewis more than the team likes. When he's not in the lineup, there's a noticeable drop in the defense's production.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
Trade	None	Steve McNair	Titans	QB	6'2"	230
FA	NA	Mike Anderson	Broncos	RB	6'0"	230
FA	NA	Trevor Pryce	Broncos	DE	6'5"	286
Rookie	1	Haloti Ngata	Oregon	DT	6'4"	345
Rookie	2	Chris Chester	Oklahoma	OL	6'4"	295

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Derrick Mason • Wide Receiver (WR) #85

Showcase Plays for Mason

I-Form-Normal



Curls

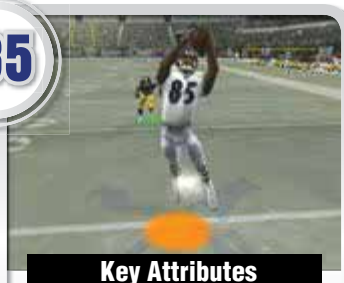
• Having a receiver such as Mason running a curl makes it much easier to complete the pass. He runs straight up the field about 10 yards before curling back toward the quarterback. Once he does, fire him a high rocket pass.

Singleback-4WR Spread



PA Slot Wheels

• This play has been in the game for some time now. The dig in route by Mason is effective as long as the defenders playing hook zones bite on the play action. If they do bite on the play action, the middle of the field should be wide open to throw a strike to Mason for a nice pickup.



Key Attributes

Awareness	93
Acceleration	94
Catching	95
Speed	90

He is not as big as some of the other top receivers in the league, but Derrick Mason gets it done with quickness and precise route running. Despite the Ravens being primarily a ball control team, Mason still managed to put up Pro Bowl–type numbers. In 2005, Mason finished third in the AFC with 86 receptions.

Ray Lewis • Middle Linebacker (MLB) #52

Showcase Plays for Lewis

46-Bear



Engage 8

• Lewis is a heat-seeking missile that explodes on contact with ball carriers. The 46-Bear Engage 8 lines him up on the right side of the offensive line behind the left end and left outside linebacker. If the ball is run to his side of the field, he'll be in position to make sure the ball carrier does not pick up much yardage.

Dime-Normal



Quarters Zone

• Lewis has lost a step or two over the last few seasons, but he still has the quickness and speed to keep up with most quarterbacks. The Quarters Zone puts Lewis in QB Spy coverage. If the quarterback thinks about taking off, he better look in front to see who is spying him. If it's Lewis, he better slide before being hit or risk injury.



Key Attributes

Awareness	98
Strength	75
Tackle	96
Speed	83

Ray Lewis is still one of the best players in the league at his position despite having injuries over the last few seasons. He is as nasty and explosive as he was when he first came into the league in 1996. Look for him to rank near the top in tackles in 2006 because he never quits and always plays at a high level.

Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

- **Position:** HB
- **Substitution:** Mike Anderson
- **When:** Passing situations
- **Advantage:** The biggest advantage would be to give Lewis a chance to rest and be more effective late in the game.

- **Position:** DT
- **Substitution:** Haloti Ngata
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** He may only be a rookie, but he is the team's best defensive tackle in Madden. On the Ravens' depth chart, he sits at number three. He needs to be moved up to number one before you play any games with Baltimore.

- **Position:** CB
- **Substitution:** David Pittman
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** David Pittman is not ready to be a starting cornerback for the Ravens just yet, but he is ready to be the nickel back. Move him up to the number-three spot at cornerback and you won't be sorry.

Fantasy Outlook

- **Star:** Jamal Lewis
- **Draft:** 2nd
- **2006 Outlook:** Good one year, then not so good the next. That's been Lewis's track record since he came into the league. This season is one of those good years.

- **Star:** Derrick Mason
- **Draft:** 6th
- **2006 Outlook:** If Mason was on a pass happy team, he would put up elite receiver numbers. However, with Steve McNair now in the saddle, Mason's numbers could rise dramatically.

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Coaching Profile

Brian Billick

- **Head Coaching Year:** 8th
- **Experience:** Offensive coordinator for the Minnesota Vikings (1992-98), where the Vikings' offense scored an NFL record for most points in a season (556).

Billick has taken the Ravens to the playoffs three times including earning a Super Bowl championship ring in 2000.

TEAM STRATEGY

Detailed Package Info

Baltimore Ravens

- **Formation:** Singleback-Big 3TE
- **Package:** Spell HB
- **Play:** HB Dive
- **Advantage:** This package gives Jamal Lewis a breather by subbing Mike Anderson in at halfback. Don't worry: you won't lose much with Anderson in the lineup.

- **Formation:** Shotgun-Trips Bunch
- **Package:** Big
- **Play:** Read Middle
- **Advantage:** This gets an extra tight end into the lineup where he can function as a pass blocker or go out for a pass.

- **Formation:** 3-4-Solid
- **Package:** OLB Flip
- **Play:** Trio Sky Zone
- **Advantage:** This package switches him to left outside linebacker where he can make short work of the quarterback.

Key Offensive Plays

A Singleback-Big

1st, 2nd and short yardage



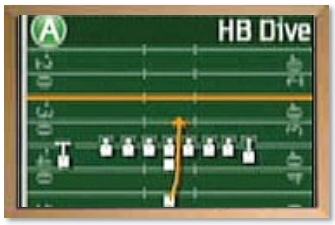
• HB Blunt Dive

Jamal Lewis and Mike Anderson are both inside power runners. You get an extra second to look for the open hole as the quarterback hands off the ball.



B Singleback-Big 3TE

Any down/distance after run



• HB Dive

This is all about pounding the ball inside, which is what the Ravens do best. With three tight ends in the lineup, the HB Dive is a great play to call when in third and short or near the goal line. This play is not fancy, but gets the job done.



C Singleback-Twin TE WR

1st, 2nd and short yardage



• Hitch Corners

The Hitch Corners has them both running corner routes. Against man coverage, both can use their talents to get open consistently. Once the ball is snapped, look down the field and throw to the one who is open.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Singleback-Trips TE	PA HB Flat, Deep Attack, Slot Read, TE Corner	Singleback-Big	HB Dive, HB Belly Weak, HB Counter Trap
Shotgun-Normal	PA Deep Post, Drag Unders, TE Corner, Curl Flats	Strong I-Twin TE	FB Dive, Counter Lead, Counter Weak, HB Dive

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Mike Flynn	86	85	53	88
C	Chris Chester	75	86	68	45
C	Jason Brown	71	87	52	54
FB	Alan Ricard	87	77	65	72
HB	Jamal Lewis	89	82	88	85
HB	Mike Anderson	87	80	85	87
HB	P.J. Daniels	75	75	85	50
HB	Musa Smith	73	74	84	59
HB	B.J. Sams	68	54	92	54
LG	Edwin Mulitalo	90	96	46	89
LG	Thatcher Szalay	60	77	40	59
LT	Jonathan Ogden	96	98	48	95
LT	Adam Terry	74	87	55	58
QB	Steve McNair	87	70	68	83
QB	Kyle Boller	80	55	69	73

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
QB	Brian St.Pierre	64	50	46	62
RG	Keydrick Vincent	80	93	47	76
RG	Brian Rimpf	68	85	44	57
RT	Tony Pashos	74	92	45	70
RT	Mike Kracalik	69	86	62	54
TE	Todd Heap	94	70	79	86
TE	Daniel Wilcox	75	74	72	74
TE	Quinn Sypniewski	75	72	83	55
WR	Derrick Mason	90	48	90	93
WR	Mark Clayton	84	44	92	75
WR	Clarence Moore	77	64	87	66
WR	Demetrius Williams	75	52	90	55
WR	Devard Darling	70	57	90	50

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Key Defensive Plays

A 46 Bear
1st & 2nd protect the middle



• Plug Cover 1
Strong safety Ed Reed adds an extra run stuffer when you line him up near the line of scrimmage. With all those defenders in the box, it makes it really hard for opposing offenses to get their run game going.



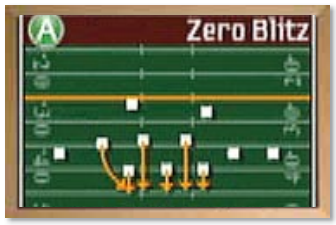
B 46 Normal
1st & 2nd protect the middle



• Mike Blitz
This defense sends middle linebacker Ray Lewis on a blitz up the middle to put pressure on the QB. Although Lewis is not as big as offensive linemen, he can usually shed the block and go after the passer.



C Dime 3-2-6
3rd and long yardage passing



• Zero Blitz
With cornerbacks Chris McAlister and Samari Rolle locking down their sides of the field, you can afford to bring the heat. This defense sends the two linebackers and a defensive back on a blitz.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
46-Normal	Ravens Dogs 3, Cover 1, Mike Blitz, Swap Blitz 1,	**4-3-Normal**	2 Man Under, Cover 3, Weak Flat 3, Cover 2
3-4 Normal	3 Bird Fire, MLB Swap Dogs, Cover 1 Plug Dog, OLB Dogs	**4-3-Normal**	Buzz Duo, Double QB Spy, Cover 2, Buzz Weak

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Chris McAlister	95	64	94	92
CB	Samari Rolle	91	45	93	93
CB	David Pittman	73	43	91	56
CB	Corey Ivy	69	46	90	64
CB	Derrick Martin	66	41	89	49
DT	Kelly Gregg	84	87	54	85
DT	Haloti Ngata	83	93	63	55
DT	Justin Bannan	74	86	53	69
DT	Aubrayo Franklin	73	87	54	64
DT	Dwan Edwards	72	87	56	58
FS	Dawan Landry	72	65	85	56
FS	B.J. Ward	70	49	88	60
LE	Trevor Pryce	92	92	68	86
LE	Jarret Johnson	70	78	63	66
LOLB	Bart Scott	84	80	77	79
LOLB	Gary Stills	64	66	68	70
MLB	Ray Lewis	98	75	83	98
MLB	Tim Johnson	68	66	76	65
RE	Terrell Suggs	92	72	86	70
RE	Roderick Green	78	64	83	49
ROLB	Adalius Thomas	89	78	85	75
ROLB	Dan Cody	75	73	80	62
SS	Ed Reed	99	57	93	93
SS	Robb Butler	64	47	84	50

Special Teams

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
K	Matt Stover	89	20	48	92
P	Leo Araguz	76	24	35	87

Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

We're paying our coaches an average salary. Our stadium upkeep costs are a little above the league average. We've got plenty of room under the cap to make an important hire. Merchandise sales and prices are very close to the league average.

Team Salary: 84.3M
Cap Room: 21.2M
Key Rival: Pittsburgh Steelers
NFL Icons:
- Ray Lewis

Philosophy:
- Offense: Ball Control
- Defense: Force the Pass

Prestige: Medium Low
Team Needs:
- Offensive Line
- Defensive Line

Highest Paid Players:
- Jonathan Ogden
- Ray Lewis

Up and Coming Players:
- Terrell Suggs
- Haloti Ngata

Team Trivia

Baltimore Ravens Facts

Answers are on the following page.

1 How many rushing yards did Jamal Lewis have in the 2000 Super Bowl season?

2 In the 2002 season, how many Ravens made it to the Pro Bowl?

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Baltimore, MD | **Starting Year:** 1996 | **League:** AFC

Franchise Beginnings

On November 6, 1995, then Cleveland Browns owner Art Modell announced his intention to move the team to Baltimore. This set off a burning feud between both cities. Both sides came to an agreement on Feb 8, 1996. It stipulated that the Browns' name, colors, and history of the franchise were to remain in Cleveland. Baltimore's name comes from the famous poem, "The Raven,", by Edgar Allan Poe, who spent the latter part of his life in Baltimore.

Notable Moments

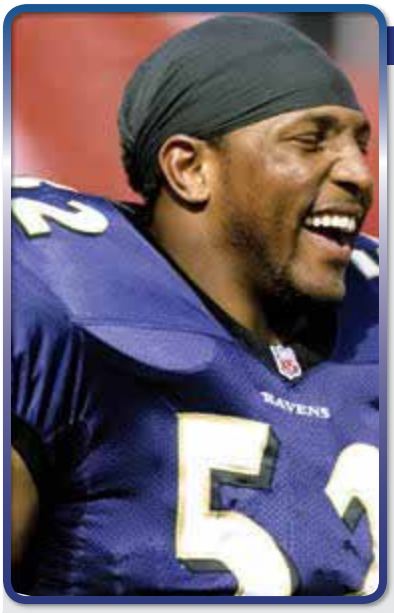
• Super Bowl XXV

On January 28, 2001, the Ravens won its first Super Bowl, beating the New York Giants 34-7. It was a dominating performance led by the Ravens defense and game MVP linebacker Ray Lewis. The defense allowed just 152 yards, forced 5 turnovers, and recorded 4 sacks.

• Odd NFL Records Set in Baltimore

On December 13, 1998, the Ravens hosted the Minnesota Vikings, who won 38-28. In that game, Vikings kicker Gary Anderson set a field goal record at that time with 34 straight field goals without a miss. An NFL single-game record was set when three kickoffs were brought back for touchdowns.

Notable Figures



Al Messerschmidt/WireImage.com

Ray Lewis ('96-'04)

In the franchise's short 10-year history, Lewis has emerged as the most recognizable player on the Ravens. The linebacker was named Defensive Player of the Year in 2000 and 2003, and helped the team set an NFL season record for fewest rushing yards allowed by a defense (970) in 2000.

Arthur B. Modell ('61-'03)

Modell was the owner instrumental in bringing the original Browns franchise to Baltimore. Modell bought the franchise in 1961 for $4 million and guided the team for the next four decades. His plan to move to Baltimore enraged Browns fans, and to this day a fierce rivalry remains between the Ravens and the new Browns.

Ozzie Newsome ('90-'05)

A Hall of Famer as a tight end for the Cleveland Browns, Ozzie Newsome is included here because he is currently general manager and executive vice president of the Baltimore Ravens. Known as the "Wizard of Oz" during his 13 years with the Browns, Newsome amassed 662 receptions for 7,980 yards and 47 touchdowns.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• On November 26, 2000, running back Earnest Byner was the first person named to the **Ravens' Ring of Honor** in Baltimore.

• Fittingly, the team's mascots are named **Edgar** (with jersey number #101), **Allan** (#102), and **Poe** (#103). And yes, all three are ravens.

• A stone mosaic of **piano keys** is displayed on the southwest plaza sidewalk at M&T Bank Stadium in recognition of the old Knaabe Piano factory, which was formerly located on the stadium site.

• In April 2003, Art Modell sold 49 percent of the team to Steve Bisciotti, a local businessman who had made his fortune in the temporary staffing field.

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:
Vinny Testaverde ('96-'97) **596**

• Passing Yards:
Vinny Testaverde ('96-'97) **7,148**

• Passing Touchdowns:
Vinny Testaverde ('96-'97) **51**

• Receptions:
Travis Taylor ('00-'04) **204**

• Receiving Yards:
Qadry Ismail ('99-"01) **2,819**

• Receiving Touchdowns:
Michael Jackson ('96-'98) **18**
Derrick Alexander ('96-'97) **18**

• Rushing Yards:
Jamal Lewis ('00-'06) **6,669**

• Rushing Touchdowns:
Jamal Lewis ('00-'06) **36**

• Career Points Leader:
Matt Stover ('96-'06) **997**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:
Michael McCrary ('97-'02) **41.5**

• Interceptions:
Ray Lewis ('96-'06) **21**

Team Trivia

Answers

1 Jamal Lewis had 309 attempts for 1,364 yards and a 4.4 per carry average.

2 Three: Boulware, Heap, and Ogden.

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WASHINGTON REDSKINS

Division: NFC East | **Stadium:** FedEX Field® | **Type:** Open | **Capacity:** 91,665 | **Surface:** Grass

2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
10	6	0	359	293	6-2	4-4	0-4	10-2	5-1

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	89
Offense	90
Defense	88

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Team Rankings

Scoring	31st
Passing Offense	29th
Rushing Offense	21st
Passing Defense	7th
Rushing Defense	2nd
Turnovers	21st

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• Clinton Portis and Santana Moss have taken over the offense and rightly so. Moss tore the league up last year on his way to a 1,400-yard receiving season and a franchise record. Portis rushed for 1,516 yards and proved that he is more then a system back from Denver. This season the 'Skins have added versatile receivers Antwaan Randal El and Brandon Lloyd.

Weaknesses

• Mark Brunell's performance last season concerns the 'Skins coming into this season. Brunell showed his age last year and if he can't get back to at least the performance level of 2004, then the team will have to look to either second-year man Jason Campbell or new QB Todd Collins.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• The Redskins defense added a proven pass rusher this off-season in Andre Carter. He should give them some consistent pressure from the edge. The secondary has also had an upgrade with the addition of safety Adam Archuleta. Now the secondary has Springs, Rogers, Taylor, and Archuleta.

Weaknesses

• Releasing LaVar Arrington may have been a good thing for management but was it the right move for the team on the field? Arrington was a playmaker and they are hard to replace. Sean Taylor also has issues with the law, and this time around the outlook is better but he still has to walk light.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Adam Archuleta	Rams	S	6'0"	223
FA	NA	Brandon Lloyd	49ers	WR	6'0"	184
FA	NA	Antwaan Randle El	Steelers	WR	5'10"	192
Rookie	2	Roger McIntosh	Miami	LB	6'2"	236
Rookie	5	A. Montgomery	Minnesota	DT	6'5"	301



Playing As: Washington Redskins

1. The Redskins have many great formations to use in the pass game that cause problems for the defense. Use WR screens to Santana Moss or Antwaan Randel El.

2. The run game cannot be forgotten either. Portis is a monster and dives and off tackles are necessary in this offense.

3. Use safety Sean Taylor to roam the field and make plays. His speed helps him defend any pass play.

Playing Against: Washington Redskins

1. Force the receivers upfield where their speed is countered by their lack of size, then we have the chance to bat the ball down or intercept it.

2. We cannot let the receivers run crossing or drag routes.

3. Versus their defense, attack the linebackers with routes by the HB to get them out in space and cause mismatches.

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Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

- **Position:** QB
- **Substitution:** Jason Campbell
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** It's time to pass the offense over to Jason Campbell. He is the future quarterback of the Redskins, and because Brunell is showing signs of fading it's time bring Campbell to the big show.

- **Position:** WR 2
- **Substitution:** Antwaan Randle El
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** Randle El was one of the primary reasons the Steelers won Super Bowl XL and that experience along with his flexibility in the offense makes him our choice to start across from Santana Moss.

- **Position:** ROLB
- **Substitution:** Rocky McIntosh
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** McIntosh was drafted to help fill the void that LaVar Arrington left behind and we believe that he is ready to be the starter. He and Warrick are equal in tackling but McIntosh has the edge in speed and that gets him the nod.

Fantasy Outlook

- **Star:** Clinton Portis
- **Draft:** 2nd round
- **2006 Outlook:** Portis put up some solid rushing numbers in the NFC and got in the end zone 11 times.

- **Star:** Santana Moss
- **Draft:** 6th round
- **2006 Outlook:** Moss will look to increase those numbers in 2006, but quarterback Mark Brunell must stay healthy.

Star Players

Clinton Portis • Running Back (HB) #26

Showcase Plays for Portis

Split Backs-3WR



Off Tackle

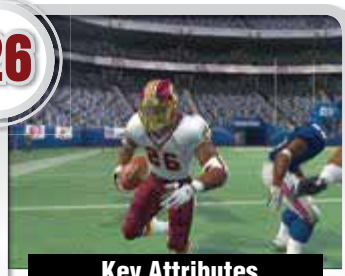
- The Split Backs-3WR Off Tackle gives Portis the chance to run inside but with the play feeling like a sweep or toss. The play starts out with the FB sealing anyone trying to pursue down the line to make the tackle. Once the back has this block, there is plenty of daylight to run to.

Weak I-H Wing TE



HB Gut

- Portis is a great inside runner with the ability to run through tackles by linebackers and safeties. One of the fast-developing run plays to use when running the ball with Clinton Portis is the HB Gut. When the ball is hiked, the left tackle and left guard create a lane for Portis to explode into and pick up good yards.



Key Attributes

Acceleration	98
Agility	95
Break Tackle	88
Speed	95

A Joe Gibbs offense must have a solid running game and the Redskins have one of the best halfbacks in football carrying the ball for them. Portis rushed for more than 1,500 yards and 11 touchdowns. In only four years he has already approached the 6,000-yard mark (5,930).

Sean Taylor • Safety (FS) #21

Showcase Plays for Taylor

4-3-Normal



2 Man Under

- Sean Taylor is a playmaker on the defensive side of the ball. The 2 Man Under defense lets him drop into a deep half zone and play anything in front of him, while using his speed to keep receivers from getting deeper than him. In this series Sean Taylor has dropped into perfect zone coverage and comes up to make the interception.

Nickel-3-3-5 Man



QB Spy

- Taylor's speed makes him one of the top choices for user control in the game. The Nickel-3-3-5 Man QB Spy shows us why. The opponent floods the field to the right while dragging the backside split end deep across the middle. Sean Taylor sees this and rotates to the play and makes the interception in the end zone.



Key Attributes

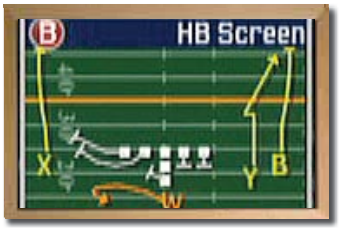
Speed	91
Strength	71
Awareness	71
Tackling	85

Attitude is everything and Sean Taylor has plenty of it. He is a big safety (6'2", 232 pounds) and can run you down if need be. His size allows him to come up and play close to the line, and he can fill any running lane like a linebacker would. Basically if he hits you, you're going down.

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Key Offensive Plays

A I Form-3WR
2nd, 3rd



• HB Screen
Whenever we pick up on a blitz tendency from the defense, we use Portis in the screen to make them think twice. Portis gets behind his screen blockers and makes the defense pay for blitzing.



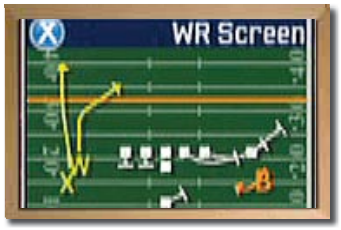
B Singleback-Deuce-Wing
1st, 2nd, 3rd



• FL Drag Clearout
Santana Moss is the leader of our receiving corps and we like to get him involved in this play. His assignment is to run a drag across the field. We see him get open as he is coming across the field, and we deliver the ball to him so he can work his magic.



C Singleback-4 WR Stack
1st, 2nd, 3rd



• WR Screen
We try to get Moss involved in as many situations as possible. One of the hardest routes to defend is the WR Screen when thrown to a player with his agility and speed. Moss catches the ball on this play and quickly turns up field for a nice gain on the play.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Singleback-4WR Stack	Corner Cross, WR Screen, WR Corners, Slot Cross	**Strong I-H Twin TE**	HB Blast, Counter Weak, HB Dive Weak, FB Trap
Shotgun-Wing Trips	Deep In, Vertical TE Cross, Double Post, Strong Flood	**Weak I-H Wing TE**	HB Wham, HB Trap, HB Gut, Counter Trap

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Casey Rabach	86	87	53	86
C	Tyson Walter	72	85	48	69
FB	Chris Cooley	95	68	82	82
FB	Mike Sellers	79	72	64	62
HB	Clinton Portis	94	68	95	88
HB	Ladell Betts	81	73	87	74
HB	Rock Cartwright	76	75	85	68
LG	Derrick Dockery	79	97	44	73
LG	Ike Ndukwe	72	86	57	60
LT	Chris Samuels	93	97	53	87
LT	Jim Molinaro	64	86	45	52
QB	Mark Brunell	87	48	65	86
QB	Jason Campbell	77	58	69	64
QB	Todd Collins	74	54	50	79
RG	Randy Thomas	94	92	57	87
RG	Mike Pucillo	74	88	51	69
RT	Jon Jansen	91	97	50	90
RT	Jonta Woodard	65	90	44	54
TE	Christian Fauria	84	75	67	80
TE	Robert Johnson	70	74	76	60
WR	Santana Moss	92	45	97	87
WR	Antwaan Randle El	85	54	94	75
WR	Brandon Lloyd	85	45	88	77
WR	David Patten	79	49	92	80
WR	Taylor Jacobs	76	45	91	67
WR	James Thrash	73	53	89	79

Coaching Profile

Joe Gibbs

- **Head Coaching Year:** 15th
- **Experience:** Redskins head coach 1981-1992. Won three Super Bowls in that time.

The most successful coach in Redskins history, Gibbs, who coached the team from 1981-1992, led the Redskins to four Super Bowls (XVI, XVII, XXII, and XXVI). He is the only coach to win three Super Bowls with three different quarterbacks. His 140 wins ranks 14th in NFL history.

Detailed Package Info

Washington Redskins

- **Formation:** Split Backs-3WR
- **Package:** Dual HB
- **Play:** FB Dive
- **Advantage:** Puts both of our HBs in the game at the same time and makes it hard for the defense to guess where we are going.

- **Formation:** I-Form Close
- **Package:** TE Split End
- **Play:** WR Streaks
- **Advantage:** Use this play to get our number-one TE out as the Split receiver. Adds size on the outside in case we need to run block or motion in to pass block.

- **Formation:** Dime-Normal
- **Package:** LB Pass Rush
- **Play:** Engage Eight
- **Advantage:** Adds the speed of our linebackers to the defensive end positions and increases our chance of getting to the QB faster.

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Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

The fans are generally happy with ticket prices. Our coaches are among the highest paid in the industry. Making the playoffs last season was a big boost to the bottom line. Merchandise sales and prices are very close to the league average.

Team Salary: 81.2M
Cap Room: 24.2M
Key Rival: Dallas Cowboys
NFL Icons: Clinton Portis
Philosophy:
- Offense: Establish Run
- Defense: Shut Down Runs

Prestige: Medium Low
Team Needs:
- Linebacker
- Defensive Line

Highest Paid Players:
- Chris Samuels
- Clinton Portis

Up and Coming Players:
- Sean Taylor
- Rocky McIntosh

TEAM STRATEGY

Key Defensive Plays

A 4-3-Under
Aggressive



• Banzai Blitz
The Banzai Blitz lets us establish the kick-you-in-the-mouth attitude that we want the offense to fear. This all-out blitz is very fast. When the QB snaps the ball, our defenders are on him in no time and our outside linebacker Washington gets the sack.



B Nickel-Strong
Pass sets



• Cloud Zone
FS Sean Taylor will double up the left outside receiver along with the RCB, and SS Ryan Clark doubles up on the right outside receiver along with the LCB. The QB will have to look throw elsewhere if he wants to complete a pass.



C 4-3-Under
1st, 2nd



• Cover 1 Robber
We showcase our dominance in this play as the MLB and LOLB stretch the run out to slam the door shut on the running back preventing a gain on the play.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
4-3-Normal	Engage Eight, CB Blitz, OLB Fire 3, Safety Blitz	Quarter-Normal 4-3-Normal	2 Man Under Spy, 4 Across, Quarter Halves, 3 Deep Man
Quarter-3 Deep	House Blitz, Mike Blitz, 3 Deep Blitz, Overload Blitz	4-3-Normal	Buzz Duo, Double QB Spy, Cover 2, Buzz Weak

Team Trivia

Washington Redskins Facts

Answers are on the following page.

1 What was the original name of the Washington Redskins?

2 Who retired as the Washington Redskins all time leading scorer with 1,207 points?

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Shawn Springs	91	55	94	90
CB	Carlos Rogers	83	66	90	72
CB	Kenny Wright	80	64	88	78
CB	Christian Morton	67	49	85	59
CB	Ade Jimoh	64	45	89	50
DT	Cornelius Griffin	90	87	65	81
DT	Joe Salave'a	71	88	53	65
DT	Anthony Montgomery	67	89	47	54
DT	Ryan Boschetti	65	85	46	59
FS	Sean Taylor	95	71	91	71
FS	Curry Burns	63	70	90	60
LE	Andre Carter	87	75	76	80
LE	Renaldo Wynn	84	86	63	88
LOLB	Marcus Washington	93	76	83	85
LOLB	Robert McCune	75	72	85	58
MLB	Lemar Marshall	87	69	85	86
MLB	Khary Campbell	66	68	75	67
RE	Phillip Daniels	87	87	65	86
RE	Demetric Evans	69	73	68	55
RE	Nic Clemons	69	69	66	61
ROLB	Warrick Holdman	83	76	78	79
ROLB	Rocky McIntosh	79	69	83	60
ROLB	Chris Clemons	75	67	78	68
SS	Adam Archuleta	89	74	85	84
SS	Pierson Prioleau	80	60	84	80

Special Teams

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
K	John Hall	81	24	44	76
P	Derrick Frost	69	40	57	58

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Boston, MA | **Starting Year:** 1932 | **League:** NFC

Franchise Beginnings

On July 1932, the city of Boston was granted an NFL franchise. The founder, George Preston Marshall, named the team the Braves after the city's National League baseball team. In 1933, the name was changed to the Redskins and they moved to Fenway Park. When the Redskins won the NFL East division championship in 1936, Marshall moved the championship game to the Polo Grounds in New York due to lack of fan support. They lost to the Packers. In 1937, the Redskins moved to Washington D.C.

Notable Moments

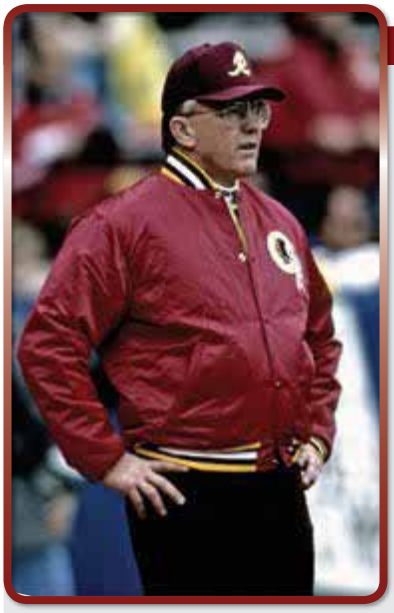
• Super Bowl XVII

The Washington Redskins beat the Miami Dolphins 27-17 in the Rose Bowl on January 30, 1983. Super Bowl MVP John Riggins carried the ball 38 times for 166-yards and a TD. The win marked Washington's first NFL title since 1942.

• Doug Williams wins Super Bowl XXII

On January 31, 1988 Doug Williams went 18 for 29, 340-yards, and four touchdowns to lead the Washington Redskins 42-10 over the Denver Broncos. It was Washington's second NFL championship of the 1980s (Super Bowl XVII). Doug Williams won the Super Bowl MVP and became the first black quarterback to win the championship.

Notable Figures



Al Messerschmidt/WireImage.com

Joe Gibbs ('81-'92, '04-'05)

Coached the Redskins from 1981-1992, has a 140-65-0 record that produced eight playoff appearances, five NFC Eastern division championships, and three Super Bowl wins (XVII, XXII and XXVI). He is third all-time in winning percentage with .683. Gibbs was also NFL Coach of the Year in 1982 and 1983 and elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1996.

George Marshall ('32-'69)

The founder and owner of the Redskins who changed things on and off the field. Marshall organized the Redskins' marching band, halftime shows, and began a radio network. He lobbied for the NFL to be split into two divisions and a playoff game to determine the title. He was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1963.

Sammy Baugh ('37-'52)

Helped revolutionize pro football by making the forward pass a routine play from scrimmage. He is also the only player to lead the league in passing, punting, and interceptions in the same season (1943). After five NFL Eastern division titles, NFL titles in 1937 and 1942, this six-time All-Pro was elected to the Hall of Fame in 1963.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• Joe Gibbs is the only coach to have won three Super Bowls with **three different quarterbacks**: Joe Theismann (XVII), Doug Williams (XXII), and Mark Rypien (XXVI).

• Head Coach Ray Flaherty introduced the **screen pass** in the 1937 NFL Title game against the Chicago Bears.

• The Washington Redskins have set the NFL's regular-season **home paid attendance record** for the **fifth consecutive year**. They drew nearly 708,000 fans for eight home games, averaging 88,000 fans for each game.

• In 1937, the Redskins had the **NFL's first fight song** "Hail to the Redskins," marching band, and radio network. The marching band still exists today, playing before the game and at halftime.

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:
Joe Theismann ('74-'85) **2,044**

• Passing Yards:
Joe Theismann ('74-'85) **25,206**

• Passing Touchdowns:
Sammy Baugh ('37-'52) **187**

• Receptions:
Art Monk ('80-'93) **888**

• Receiving Yards:
Art Monk ('80-'93) **12,026**

• Receiving Touchdowns:
Carley Taylor ('64-'77) **79**

• Rushing Yards:
John Riggins ('76-'79, '81-'85) **7,472**

• Rushing Touchdowns:
John Riggins ('76-'79, '81-'85) **79**

• Career Points Leader:
Mark Moseley ('74-'86) **1,207**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:
Dexter Manley ('81-'89) **97.5**

• Interceptions:
Darrell Green ('83-'01) **54**

Team Trivia

Answers

1 In 1932, the Redskins were known as the Boston Braves. From 1933-1937, they were known as the Boston Redskins and in 1937 became the Washington Redskins.

2 Mark Moseley scored 1,207 points in his career with Washington. He was also named the league MVP in 1982.

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NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

Division: NFC South | **Stadium:** Superdome | **Type:** Dome | **Capacity:** 72,675 | **Surface:** Turf



2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
3	13	0	235	398	1-7	2-6	2-2	1-11	1-5

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	86
Offense	87
Defense	84

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Team Rankings

Scoring	31st
Passing Offense	14th
Rushing Offense	18th
Passing Defense	3rd
Rushing Defense	27th
Turnovers	30th

TEAM STRATEGY

Playing As: New Orleans Saints

1. Now that Drew Brees is the quarterback of the Saints, the pass game is a key option to use as a point of attack.

2. Shotgun or Singleback spread sets will open up plenty of room for Brees to work with and also allow us to rack up yards with Deuce McAllister or Reggie Bush.

3. In fact, the Singleback sets allow the Saints to package both Bush and McAllister on the field at the same time.

Playing Against: New Orleans Saints

1. The Saints don't have a real threat at receiver outside of Joe Horn so blitzing the offense will more than likely be a safe bet.

2. Do not let Drew Brees get time in the pocket to shred your defense, because he is accurate enough to do just that.

3. Against the defense, don't get sloppy but use a nice balance of HB Slams and Slant routes with a streak here or there to stretch the field.

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• There is no place like home, and that statement couldn't be truer for this team. The Saints return to their home, stadium, and practice facilities. This alone should help the team. To let the rest of the NFL know that they mean business the Saints got QB Drew Brees and added the consensus best pick in the draft, Reggie Bush.

Weaknesses

• The Saints invested a lot of hope and money in Drew Brees and no one will know if he is going to be at his all-pro form after suffering a devastating injury last season. Can veterans Joe Horn and Deuce McAllister stay healthy? They also lost one of the best O-linemen in all of football when LeCharles Bentley left for the Browns.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• New Coach Sean Peyton made defense a priority in his first off-season and is sure to improve this unit's run-stopping ability. They added Hollis Thomas from the Eagles and linebackers Scott Fujita and Anthony Simmons. New coordinator Gary Gibbs should have a major effect on this D by adding a new attitude.

Weaknesses

• The Saints are in need of some playmakers to step up on the defensive side of the ball. There is no clear picture of the starting linebacker corps or what order they will be in. The secondary isn't stable past the corners and that could continue to be a real issue in a division containing Steve Smith.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Drew Brees	Chargers	QB	6'0"	209
FA	NA	Bethel Johnson	Patriots	WR	5'11"	200
FA	NA	Michael Bennett	Vikings	RB	5'9"	211
Rookie	1	Reggie Bush	USC	RB	5'11"	200
Rookie	2	Roman Harper	Alabama	S	6'0"	197

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Drew Brees • Quarterback (QB) #9

Showcase Plays for Brees

Singleback-Tight Doubles



Horn Option

• Drew Brees is a very accurate quarterback and has good decision-making skills. This is shown in the Tight Doubles Horn Option. The play is fast developing and easy to use. At the snap look for the inside receiver to break outside and then hit him as he separates from the defender. This is an easy way to have success with Brees.

Shotgun-4WR



Slants Middle

• The Slants Middle is a play that takes advantage of his arm when it comes to accuracy in a tight place. Slants are great plays to get a rhythm established and can carve up a defense. When the ball is hiked we look for the first receiver to flash to the middle and then, as seen in the pic, we take that option, for the easy yards.



Key Attributes

Awareness	88
Overall	92
Throwing Power	89
Throwing Accuracy	95

Brees is coming off of two very solid seasons where he showed what everyone saw in him coming out of college. He will bring consistency to the quarterback position and his ability to lead an offense is remarkable. Even though Brees was hurt in the playoffs, he put up 3,500 passing yards and 25 TDs over the span of the regular season.

Deuce McAllister • Running Back (HB) #26

Showcase Plays for McAllister

I Form-Normal



HB Counter Wk

• McAllister is one of the strongest backs in the game and can run over many defenders. In this play he gets the ball after counter action and follows his fullback as he clears a lane around the edge. Before going to the ground, McAllister delivers a blow to the pursuing defender.

Singleback-Big



HB Slam

• Power and speed are a great combo to have in the backfield and with a run play that develops as fast as the Singleback-Big HB Slam, Deuce McAllister can do a little showing off. This run play is very quick and as soon as the ball is hiked McAllister is in the hole and making his way to the second level of the defense.



Key Attributes

Acceleration	92
Agility	85
Break Tackle	91
Speed	89

McAllister has been a key part of the Saints' offense over the last few seasons. When healthy, he is one of the better backs in the NFL. He has proven that he is a consistent 1,000-yard rusher but injuries keep getting in the way. This should be a great year for McAllister with the addition of Drew Brees and Reggie Bush. We are looking for him to put up even better numbers.

Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

- **Position:** HB
- **Substitution:** Reggie Bush
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage**: Bush is so versatile it makes it hard to even think about him sitting on the sideline. We will take advantage of his abilities every down if we can.

- **Position:** WR 3
- **Substitution:** Bethel Johnson
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** Bring out the speed. Bethel Johnson will be our slot receiver and with his blazing speed we can force the safeties to play deeper than 10 yards or watch him run right by them.

- **Position:** DT 1
- **Substitution:** Cedric Woodard
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** All of our d-tackles are rated the same but we want Woodard to start alongside Hollis Thomas because of his strength. With two powerful guys up front in Thomas and Woodard, we should be a constant factor in the run and pass game.

Fantasy Outlook

- **Star:** Reggie Bush
- **Draft:** 2nd-3rd round
- **2006 Outlook:** We have Bush on our fantasy draft board as a 2nd or 3rd round pick. Some might think this is a pretty high ranking for a rookie running back, but he is no ordinary running back.

- **Star:** Deuce McAllister
- **Draft:** 2nd-3rd round
- **2006 Outlook:** We don't know how many carries Bush is going to take away from McAllister. If you draft Bush, you better get Deuce on your team and watch how the season plays out.

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Coaching Profile

Jim Haslett

- **Head Coaching Year:** 1st
- **Experience:** 19th year in the league. Served as assistant head coach with Dallas 2003-2006.

Since 2000, each QB under Payton's guidance has thrown for more than 3,000 yards. The quarterbacks he tutored in Dallas—Drew Bledsoe last season, Vinny Testaverde in 2004 and Quincy Carter in 2003—all surpassed the milestone.

Detailed Package Info

New Orleans Saints

- **Formation:** Split Backs-Normal
- **Package:** Spell HB
- **Play:** Off Tackle
- **Advantage:** Reggie Bush is in the backfield whenever we use the Spell HB package. This will be the most used package for those who still want to feature Deuce McAallister.

- **Formation:** Weak I-Twin TE
- **Package:** Dual HB (Third Down)
- **Play:** PA Waggle
- **Advantage:** On third down Reggie Bush is our back. We use the dual HB to bring McAllister in as the FB and get him some favorable matchups while the D focuses on Bush.

- **Formation:** Nickel-Strong
- **Package:** Safety Swap
- **Play:** Engage Eight
- **Advantage:** Swaps the safeties and puts safety Dwight Smith as the blitzer out of the secondary. His speed is a plus when running this defense.

Key Offensive Plays

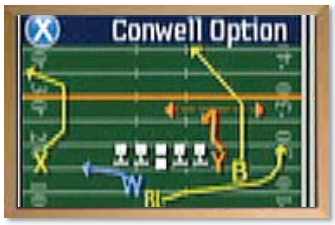
A Shotgun-5WR Bunch
1st, 2nd, 3rd



• In and Under
Drew Brees is a great decision maker and in this play he hits the right side slot receiver after he makes his break upfield. This helps us force the defense to play cautiously.



B Weak I-Twin TE
Any down



• Conwell Option
Reggie Bush is assigned a flat route that turns upfield where he is being played by a linebacker in man coverage. Drew Brees gets Bush the ball right away and makes the defense pay for this matchup as Bush hits one of his signature dives into the end zone.



C Singleback-Tight Doubles
Any down



• Slot Corner
This play puts a strain on the defense because it floods the left side of the field. The defense can play man or zone, but the outcome will be the same: another pass completion for a first down.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Shotgun-5WR Bunch	In and Under, Clear Deep, Slot Post Stop, Quick Slants	**Full House-Normal Wide**	HB Draw, HB Smash, HB Sweep, HB Slam
Singleback-Tight Doubles	Inside Hook, WR Option, HB Screen, Slot Corner	**Singleback-Normal**	HB Plunge, HB Sprint, HB Counter Trap, HB Pitch

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Jeff Faine	84	87	58	73
C	Dwayne Ledford	69	87	42	70
FB	Mike Karney	76	74	59	60
HB	Deuce McAllister	89	78	89	86
HB	Reggie Bush	87	62	97	55
HB	Michael Bennett	76	61	97	70
HB	Aaron Stecker	76	62	88	70
LG	Montrae Holland	76	92	44	70
LG	Jonathan Goodwin	69	85	49	66
LT	Jammal Brown	85	89	61	73
LT	Ben Archibald	63	86	43	62
QB	Drew Brees	92	55	62	88
QB	Todd Bouman	70	57	49	68
QB	Jamie Martin	70	53	50	74
QB	Adrian McPherson	67	52	82	42

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
RG	Jermane Mayberry	89	93	47	88
RG	Jahri Evans	69	89	49	44
RT	Jon Stinchcomb	71	82	56	60
RT	Jamar Nesbit	68	89	43	66
TE	Ernie Conwell	81	72	67	80
TE	Zach Hilton	80	68	77	68
TE	Mark Campbell	78	67	66	78
WR	Joe Horn	90	64	89	93
WR	Donte Stallworth	86	55	97	77
WR	Mike Hass	77	57	86	63
WR	Bethel Johnson	75	48	98	64
WR	Devery Henderson	73	44	96	58
WR	Nathan Poole	70	55	86	60

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Key Defensive Plays

A 4-3-Normal
Aggressive



• Storm Blitz
We attack the opposing offense right up the gut. New additions Scott Fujita and Hollis Thomas get the QB sack as we also have added pressure from our strong safety, Bellamy.



B Quarter-3 Deep
Passing downs



• Under Man Zone
The Saints are one of the first teams to rely heavily on the Quarter-3 Deep set in passing formations. The Under Man zone allows us to lock up all the pass threats downfield and prevent the offense from going to a single option on the play.



C Nickel-3-3-5
3rd & 4th



• Under 7 Slice
This defense lets our opponent think that the middle of the field is vulnerable. Once they throw the ball they quickly see how our defense converges on the ball to swat it down or get the interception.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
Nickel-Normal	Engage Eight, ROLB Blitz, Under Smoke, Over Storm Brave	**Dime-3-2-6**	DB Contain, Cover 1 LB Spy, Cover 4, Cover 2
Dime-Flat	Fire Blitz, Overload Blitz, 1 Man DB Strike, DB Blitz	**Quarter-3 Deep**	Cover 3, Under Man Zone, Double X, Prevent

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Mike McKenzie	89	65	89	91
CB	Jason Craft	82	55	91	75
CB	Fred Thomas	80	49	86	85
CB	Joey Thomas	74	57	92	55
CB	Josh Lay	72	46	89	57
DT	Brian Young	80	78	63	79
DT	Hollis Thomas	80	90	48	82
DT	Cedric Woodard	80	89	55	73
DT	Willie Whitehead	76	82	64	70
FS	Dwight Smith	87	63	91	74
FS	Omar Stoutmire	78	63	82	81
FS	Roman Harper	78	55	85	68
LE	Will Smith	90	80	80	72
LE	Jimmy Verdon	75	81	65	64
LOLB	Anthony Simmons	87	75	81	85
LOLB	James Allen	74	75	78	65
MLB	Colby Bockwoldt	76	69	78	72
MLB	Alfred Fincher	70	75	77	67
RE	Charles Grant	91	82	75	73
RE	Tony Bryant	74	80	66	68
ROLB	Tommy Polley	82	66	85	75
ROLB	Scott Fujita	82	73	81	76
SS	Jay Bellamy	82	61	82	85
SS	Josh Bullocks	82	59	90	67

Special Teams

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
K	John Carney	81	24	49	85
P	Mitch Berger	92	38	54	88

Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

We're spending the same on stadium maintenance as most teams. Fans are generally happy with our merchandise prices. We're not paying our coaches very competitive salaries. Our ticker prices are right where they should be.

Team Salary: 74.9M
Cap Room: 30.5M
Key Rival: Atlanta Falcons
NFL Icons:
- Joe Horn
- Deuce McAllister

Philosophy:
- Offense: Establish Run
- Defense: Shutdown Runs

Prestige: Low
Team Needs:
- Linebacker
- Offensive Line

Highest Paid Players:
- Drew Brees
- Joe Horn

Up and Coming Players:
- Reggie Bush
- Josh Bullocks

Team Trivia

New Orleans Saints Facts

Answers are on the following page.

❶ Which quarterback known mainly for playing for a different team, set a Saints record with 3,970 yards passing in one season?

❷ Who was the first head coach to bring the Saints to the playoffs?

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: New Orleans, LA | **Starting Year:** 1966 | **League:** NFC

Franchise Beginnings

The New Orleans Saints were the 16th franchise awarded by the National Football League. November 1, 1966, the day the franchise was awarded, happened to be All Saints Day, giving the franchise its name of the "Saints." From their opening kickoff return in their very first game, to their home game celebrations of "Mardi Gras in Autumn," the New Orleans Saints were well-received with a average home attendance of 75,463 per game in their opening season.

Notable Moments

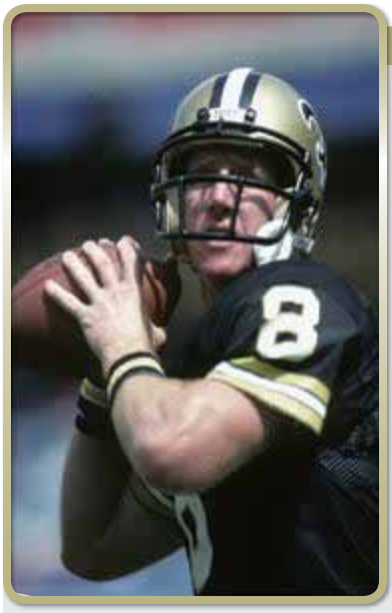
• A Kick to Remember

The Saints won their November 8, 1970 game against the Detroit Lions with a NFL record-setting 63-yard field goal in the game's final play. The final score, 19-17, chalked a win for J.D. Roberts in his first game as head coach. This game is widely considered as one of the most memorable moments in Saints history.

• NFC West Championship 1991

The Saints capped off one of their best seasons in franchise history with their first-ever division title in 1991, when they defeated the Cardinals 27-3 and ended their season with an 11-5 record. The defense that season led the league in fewest points allowed and were second in the league in fewest yards allowed.

Notable Figures



Al Messerschmidt/WireImage.com

Archie Manning ('71-'75,'77-'82)

Two-time Pro Bowler, Archie Manning is the franchise passing leader for the Saints. With Saints records in career passing yards (21,734), pass completions (1,849), and passing touchdowns (115), Archie Manning is recognized as one of the Saints all-time greats. Archie was inducted into the Saints Hall of Fame in 1988.

Jim Finks ('86-'92)

A well-respected executive, Jim Finks is known for turning losing franchises into playoff and Super Bowl champions. First with the struggling Vikings in 1964 and again with the Bears in 1974, Finks began with the Saints in 1986. In 1987—just his second year with the team—brought the Saints to their first winning season in their 19 season history.

Sam Mills ('86-'94)

Sam Mills is one of the four linebackers that made up the Saints "The Dome Patrol" in the late eighties and early nineties. Mills, along with the other members of The Dome Patrol, helped lead the Saints to their first playoff appearance in 1987 and are responsible for their league leading defense in 1991-92. All members of the foursome were chosen to appear in the 1992 Pro Bowl.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• The stadium in which the Saints play, the Superdome, has a roof that covers an unbelievable **9.7 acres**.

• The New Orleans Saints are one of two teams that have a team **Hall of Fame**. There are a total of 33 inductees with busts and paintings in the facility, which is dedicated to preserving the history of the franchise.

• Tom Dempsey, the history-making kicker that won a game with a 63-yard field goal, was born **without toes** on his right foot. This unique and talented kicker wore a heavy, square-toed kicking shoe. His 63-yard field goal in 1970 is still an NFL record for the **longest field goal**.

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:
Archie Manning ('71-'82) **1,849**

• Passing Yards:
Archie Manning ('71-'82) **21,734**

• Passing Touchdowns:
Archie Manning ('71-'82) **115**

• Receptions:
Eric Martin ('85-'93) **532**

• Receiving Yards:
Eric Martin ('85-'93) **7,854**

• Receiving Touchdowns:
Eric Martin ('85-'93) **48**

• Rushing Yards:
George Rogers ('81-'84) **4,267**

• Rushing Touchdowns:
Dalton Hilliard ('86-'93) **39**

• Career Points Leader:
Morten Anderson ('82-'94) **1,318**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:
Rickey Jackson ('81-'93) **115**

• Interceptions:
Dave Waymer ('80-'89) **37**

Team Trivia

Answers

❶ Atlanta Falcons quarterback Jim Everett.

❷ Tom Dempsey made a 63-yard field goal against the Detroit Lions on November 8, 1970.

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SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

Division: NFC West | **Stadium:** Qwest Field™ | **Type:** Open | **Capacity:** 67,000 | **Surface:** Turf

2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
13	3	0	452	271	8-0	5-3	3-1	10-2	6-0

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	90
Offense	91
Defense	88

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Team Rankings

Scoring	1st
Passing Offense	13th
Rushing Offense	3rd
Passing Defense	25th
Rushing Defense	5th
Turnovers	18th

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• Shaun Alexander is coming off a 1,880-yard season. Those numbers are great, but they pale in comparison to his record breaking 27 rushing touchdowns. Quarterback Matt Hasselbeck has become one of the top quarterbacks in game and will lead the way.

Weaknesses

• Darrell Jackson is a solid number-one receiver, but the team needs another receiver to step up at number two. Newcomer Nate Burleson looks to improve on his disappointing numbers while in Minnesota last season and become that number-two receiver. Losing left guard Steve Hutchinson is bad news for both the run and pass game.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

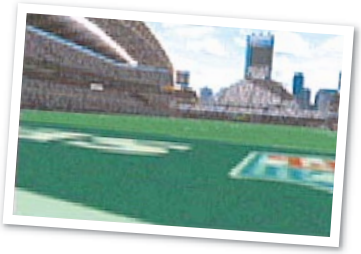
• The reason the Seahawks' defense improved so much was their linebackers' ability to defend. A lot of that credit goes to Lofo Tatupu, who had a major impact as a rookie with 105 tackles. Rocky Bernard led Seattle with 8.5 sacks from the tackle position. Strong Safety Michael Boulware led the secondary with four interceptions.

Weaknesses

• Seattle lacks depth at defensive end and at safety. If any of the starters go down, it could spell trouble unless their replacements step up. Free Safety Ken Hamlin is coming back from a serious head injury in a fight outside of a Seattle bar. One has to wonder if he will be able to play at 100 percent.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Mike Green	Bears	S	6'0"	195
FA	NA	Nate Burleson	Vikings	WR	6'0"	197
FA	NA	Julian Peterson	49ers	LB	6'3"	235
Rookie	1	Kelly Jennings	Miami (FL)	CB	5'11"	178
Rookie	2	Darryl Tapp	Virginia Tech	DE	6'1"	268



Team Strategy

Playing As: Seattle Seahawks

1. Run the ball behind mammoth left tackle Walter Jones. Outside of the Ram's Orlando Pace, he is the best left tackle in the game.
2. Get the ball into Shaun Alexander's hands at least 25 to 30 times a game. If you do that, you will win consistently.
3. Run a lot of drags, crosses, and slants. Matt Hasselbeck excels at throwing these types of routes.

Playing Against: Seattle Seahawks

1. Load the box up to stop Alexander. Force Hasselbeck to beat you with his arm.
2. The Seahawks' defensive line is quick, but not big. Establish the run game by pounding the ball inside.
3. In third down situations, don't let Bobby Engram beat you. He has the team's best pair of hands and has a knack for picking up first downs.

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Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

- **Position:** RT
- **Substitution:** Tom Ashworth
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** The Seahawks are thin at right tackle. The two default right tackles are not up to par to protect the quarterback or open up running lanes. Move right guard Tom Ashworth in to solidify the right side of the offensive line.

- **Position:** CB
- **Substitution:** Kelly Jennings
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** Kelly Jennings is another case where a rookie cornerback needs to be moved up on the depth chart. He is not ready to unseat the Seahawks top two corners, but he is good enough to play the nickel back.

- **Position:** KR
- **Substitution:** Peter Warrick
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** Peter Warrick is already the punt return specialist. Putting him in as the kick return specialist adds speed and the ability to give the offense good field position
.

Fantasy Outlook

- **Star:** Shaun Alexander
- **Draft:** 1st round
- **2006 Outlook:** He will be the first or second player off the board in most drafts. If you have the first or second overall pick, consider yourself a contender for your fantasy league title.

- **Star:** Matt Hasselbeck
- **Draft:** 4th round
- **2006 Outlook:** Not going to overwhelm any fantasy owner with his numbers but is consistent from week to week.

Star Players

Matt Hasselbeck • Quarterback (QB) #8

Showcase Plays for Hasselbeck

Singleback-Tight Doubles



Quick Fade

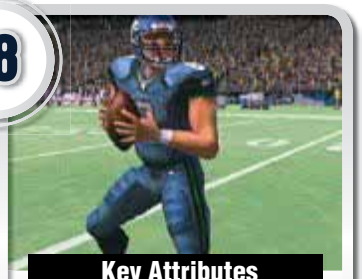
- The Quick Fade was one of the more used plays in Madden Challenge last year. Having a quarterback with Hasselbeck's touch makes this play even more deadly. If the defense sends an all-out blitz and the flanker is matched up in one-on-one coverage, just lob the pass over the top to the flanker for a big play.

Split Back-Pro



Slants

- This play suits Hasselbeck's best attribute well and that's his accuracy. Once the ball is snapped, drop Hasselbeck back about 3 yards then look for the split end or flanker running slants. If one of them breaks open, throw a fast dart where only they can make the catch. Expect to pick up 6-8 yards.



Key Attributes

Awareness	91
Speed	64
Throwing Power	92
Throwing Accuracy	91

Matt Hasselbeck has to be considered one of the elite quarterbacks in the game today. Last year he helped guide the Seahawks to their first Super Bowl appearance while also making the Pro Bowl. He is highly accurate and understands how the West Coast Offense should be run.

Shaun Alexander • Halfback (HB) #37

Showcase Plays for Alexander

Near-Close



HB Inside

- It's not a fancy run play, but with the Right Analog Stick and Alexander you can turn the HB Inside into something special. Once the ball is handed off to Alexander, take control of him and follow the fullback through the hole between the center and left guard. All it takes is a few blocks and a good juke move to get Alexander into the end zone.

Singleback-4WR Spread



HB Cutback

- Alexander's vision is as good as any player in the game. The cutback play is an opportunity to use his vision to get through the open hole quickly. Once the ball gets in Alexander's hands, look to follow the pulling right guard who paves the way to pick up positive yardage.



Key Attributes

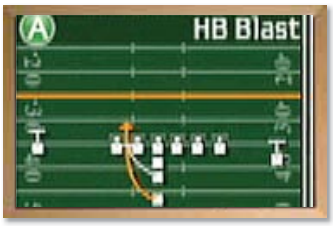
Awareness	97
Agility	89
Break Tackle	94
Speed	90

Shaun Alexander uses his pure running instincts and exceptional vision to run over and/or around opposing defenders. Once he gets in the open, he uses his speed to take the rock to the house. Last season he led the league in rushing with 1,880 yards and broke the single-season rushing touchdown record with 27.

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Key Offensive Plays

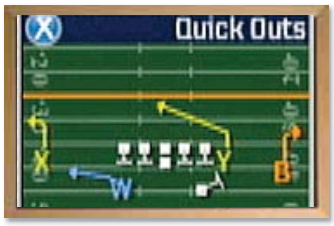
A I-Form-Normal
1st & 2nd using pass



• HB Blast
Shaun Alexander's ability to quickly see holes open up makes him one of the best running backs in the game. If nothing opens up inside, use the spin move and bust Alexander to the outside for yardage.



B Pro Form-Normal
1st, 2nd and short yardage



• Quick Outs
One of the staple routes in the West Coast Offense is the quick out. This play is great to call when you need less than 5 yards. Both the split end and flanker run quick outs. As soon as they break to the sideline, throw one of them a bullet pass.



C Singleback-4WR Spread
1st & 2nd using pass



• 949 Yara
If your opponent likes to call defenses that drop defenders into the flats or near the sidelines, try calling the Singleback-4WR Spread 949 Yara. With both slot receivers running hitch routes inside, one of them will almost always be open.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Split Backs-Pro	Curls, Fl Clearout, Slot Cross, Slants	**I Form Big**	HB Lead, HB Counter, HB Sweep, FB Dive
Far-Tight Twins	Slant Hook, Slot Cross, Curls, Slot Corner	**Near-Pro**	HB Counter, HB Inside, FB Dive Strong, FB Fake

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Robbie Tobeck	88	87	54	93
C	Chris Spencer	84	91	60	64
FB	Mack Strong	95	74	83	75
HB	Shaun Alexander	98	79	91	97
HB	Maurice Morris	81	66	91	73
HB	Josh Scobey	72	60	88	60
LG	Floyd Womack	84	96	42	84
LG	Rob Sims	75	91	54	60
LT	Walter Jones	99	97	52	95
LT	William Henry	71	82	60	60
QB	Matt Hasselbeck	93	54	64	91
QB	Seneca Wallace	76	50	84	63
QB	David Greene	72	53	56	64
RG	Chris Gray	86	88	51	90
RG	Tom Ashworth	86	85	55	87

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
RT	Ray Willis	69	89	54	60
RT	Sean Locklear	69	86	54	50
TE	Jerramy Stevens	85	73	79	70
TE	Itula Mili	81	73	67	77
WR	Darrell Jackson	90	62	90	89
WR	Nate Burleson	87	55	91	81
WR	Bobby Engram	85	49	87	88
WR	Peter Warrick	81	44	87	78
WR	D.J. Hackett	76	56	88	65
WR	Ben Obomanu	70	58	87	45

Coaching Profile

Mike Holmgren

- **Head Coaching Year:** 15th
- **Experience:** Former Super Bowl coach of the Green Bay Packers (1996).

Holmgren led the Seattle Seahawks to their first Super Bowl appearance. He won a Super Bowl with the Packers. Under Holmgren's guidance in 2003, the Seahawks had their first double-digit victory total since 1986. His head coaching record is 149-95.

Detailed Package Info

Seattle Seahawks

- **Formation:** Near-Pro
- **Package:** RB Swap
- **Play:** FB Dive
- **Advantage:** Shaun Alexander moves to fullback where he can use his running moves to pick up the tough yardage inside.

- **Formation:** Far-Tight Twins
- **Package:** WR Swap
- **Play:** Slot Corner
- **Advantage:** Darrell Jackson now lines up at slot and runs a corner route. Look for him once he makes his cut for a big play.

- **Formation:** Dime-Normal
- **Package:** LB Pass Rush
- **Play:** 2 Man Under
- **Advantage:** The Seahawks' defensive ends are good pass rushers, but they do not have top end speed. The LB pass rush packages place two linebackers at both defensive end spots, where they can turn up the heat.

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Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

Let's try to keep food prices right where they are. The parking rates are reasonable and the fans aren't complaining. Fans are generally happy with our merchandise prices. Our ticket prices are right where they should be.

Team Salary: 78.2M
Cap Room: 27.2M
Key Rival: St. Louis Rams
NFL Icons:
- Shaun Alexander

Philosophy
- Offense: West Coast
- Defense: Disrupt Passing

Prestige: High
Team Needs:
- Offensive Line
- Wide Receiver

Highest Paid Players:
- Julian Peterson
- Shaun Alexander

Up and Coming Players:
- Lofa Tatupu
- Leroy Hill

Team Trivia

Seattle Seahawks Facts

Answers are on the following page.

1 Who was the first player the Seahawks traded for in their franchise history?

2 Controversial linebacker Brian Bosworth was selected in the 1987 Supplemental Draft; which college did he attend?

Key Defensive Plays

A Nickel-Normal

1st & 2nd defend flats



• Silver Shoot Pinch

A good defensive play to counter it is the Nickel-Normal Silver Shoot Pinch. With the nickelback blitzing from the outside, he will be in position to make the tackle on the ball carrier before he does much damage.



B 4-3-Under

1st & 2nd get the QB



• Cover 4 Buzz

If your opponent likes to go deep and does not attack the flats often, this will provide excellent pass coverage. The outside linebackers, who drop in curl flat zones, do a good job at taking away corner routes.



C Nickel 3-3-5

3rd and long vs. mobile QBs



• Cover 3

If you ask any top player what one of the best Nickel 3-3-5 defenses is, they would tell you the Cover 3. When the offense is inside the red zone and must throw the ball, you will be hard pressed to find a defense with better pass coverage.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
4-3-Normal	Engage Eight, Free Fire, Zip Shoot Gut, Hog Buck 3	**4-3-Under**	Cover 3, DE Contain, DBL TE Bracket, Man Flats
Nickel Strong	Engage Eight, Strong Man, Under Smoke, NB Blitz,	**Quarter-3 Deep**	2 Man Under, Cover 3, Man Up3 Deep, Prevent

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Marcus Trufant	90	53	94	80
CB	Kelly Herndon	84	64	88	81
CB	Kelly Jennings	79	48	94	64
CB	Jordan Babineaux	73	46	88	64
CB	Jimmy Williams	70	45	89	66
DT	Rocky Bernard	87	87	64	70
DT	Chartric Darby	83	80	67	71
DT	Marcus Tubbs	83	91	62	65
DT	Russell Davis	82	90	56	71
FS	Ken Hamlin	85	64	87	68
FS	Michael Green	83	59	86	76
FS	Shaunard Harts	77	58	84	71
LE	Bryce Fisher	85	78	74	74
LE	Joe Tafoya	72	74	67	68
LE	Jeb Huckeba	71	67	74	46
LOLB	Leroy Hill	84	73	83	75
LOLB	Kevin Bentley	78	73	78	70
MLB	Lofa Tatupu	88	77	84	81
MLB	Niko Koutouvides	76	74	75	70
RE	Grant Wistrom	89	82	70	95
RE	Darryl Tapp	78	74	74	50
RE	Kemp Rasmussen	70	70	73	66
ROLB	Julian Peterson	96	74	86	88
ROLB	D.D. Lewis	80	75	77	79
ROLB	Isaiah Kacyvenski	78	76	73	80
SS	Michael Boulware	88	68	86	71
SS	Etric Pruitt	67	54	83	52
Special Teams					
K	Josh Brown	85	25	46	69
P	Tom Rouen	78	37	57	84

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Seattle, WA | **Starting Year:** 1976 | **League:** NFC

Franchise Beginnings

In 1976, they came into the NFL when the league granted an expansion team franchise to department store owner John Nordstrom. The first winning season came in 1978, with Coach Jack Patera named Coach of the Year, Jim Zorn leading the AFC in passing yardage, and WR Steve Largent boasting 1,168 yards and 8 TDs. Ownership changed during 1988 when Ken Behring acquired majority ownership from the Nordstrom family; in 1997, Paul Allen purchased the team. The Seahawks capped off the 2005-06 season with their first ever Super Bowl appearance.

Notable Moments

• First NFC Championship Game Win

On January 22, 2006 at Qwest Field, Seattle, the Seahawks forced four turnovers, and allowed the Carolina Panthers only 36 rushing yards and 14 points, as they advanced to their first Super Bowl trip in the team's 30-year history. The Seahawks would eventually win the game 34-14 and advance to Super Bowl XL.

• 1988 AFC West Division Crown

The Seahawks started the season solid, winning their first two games until QB Dave Krieg got injured. The team became erratic—losing the next two games, winning the next two, and then losing the next two. When Krieg returned, he helped win three of their final four games to secure their first AFC West title with a 9-7 record.

Notable Figures



NFL/WireImage.com

Steve Largent ('76-'89)

Steve Largent was a 1976 fourth-round pick of the Houston Oilers but was traded during training camp to the Seahawks. By 1989, he had established himself as one of the greatest pass catchers in NFL history. Largent finished with 819 catches, 13,089 yards, and 100 touchdowns; his eight 1,000-yard seasons still ranks second only to Jerry Rice's twelve.

Dave Krieg ('80-'91)

Krieg spent the first 12 years of his 19-year NFL playing career with the Seahawks and became the club's all-time leader; at the time of his retirement, he held numerous career, season, and single-game passing categories. Krieg is still in the top of 20 passing statistics categories including career passing yards, completions, attempts, and touchdowns.

Jim Zorn ('76-'84)

The Seahawks' starting quarterback from 1976 to 1983, he was the 1976 NFC Offensive Rookie of the Year and attempted 439 passes. He played 126 games, passed for 20,122 yards, and had 107 touchdowns during his nine years. Zorn became the third quarterback in NFL history to pass for more than 10,000 yards in his first four seasons.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• The Seahawks' name was the result of a **fan contest** that drew over 20,000 entries. "Seahawks" was suggested by over 150 people and ownership picked it as the best choice.

• The Seahawks shutout the San Francisco 49ers 34-0 on September 26, 2004—ending the 49er's NFL record of **27 years** without a shutout.

• The only retired uniform numbers in Sea-hawks' history are **#12** for the fans and **#80** for Steve Largent.

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Yards:
Dave Krieg ('80-'91) **26,132**

• Passing Touchdowns:
Dave Krieg ('80-'91) **195**

• Receptions:
Steve Largent ('76-'89) **819**

• Receiving Yards:
Steve Largent ('76-'89) **13,089**

• Rushing Yards:
Shaun Alexander ('00-'06) **7,817**

• Career Points Leader:
Norm Johnson ('82-'90) **810**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Interceptions:
Dave Brown ('76-'86) **50**

Team Trivia

Answers

1 The Seahawks traded an eighth-round draft pick to the Houston Oilers for Steve Largent

2 Oklahoma. "Boz" played in just 24 games in three years for the Seahawks

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PITTSBURGH STEELERS

Division: AFC North | **Stadium:** Heinz Field™ | **Type:** Open | **Capacity:** 64,450 | **Surface:** Grass



2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
11	5	0	389	258	5-3	6-2	7-5	4-0	4-2

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	89
Offense	90
Defense	89

Team Rankings

Scoring	9th
Passing Offense	24th
Rushing Offense	5th
Passing Defense	16th
Rushing Defense	3rd
Turnovers	12th

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• Ben Roethlisberger continues to ascend to the top as one of the league's best quarterbacks. Willie Parker surprised many by taking over as the Steelers' featured back. He rushed for more than 1,200 yards. Hines Ward continued to be a reliable target by catching 69 balls for 974 yards. He also hauled in 11 touchdown passes.

Weaknesses

• The biggest questions going to into camp are who will replaced Jerome Bettis in goal line running situations and who will replace Antwaan Randle El at receiver. Duce Staley looks to get first crack at replacing Bettis, but he has not been able to stay healthy since coming over from the Eagles. Cedrick Wilson or 2006 first round pick Santonio Holmes will replace Randle El at receiver.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• Joey Porter continued to put pressure on opposing quarterbacks in 2005 by racking up 10 sacks. He is the team's biggest playmaker at linebacker. Strong safety Troy Polamalu just makes plays all over the field. Inside linebacker James Farrior led the team in total tackles with 119.

Weaknesses

• Keisel has never been a full time starter, so there could be some drop off on the right side of the defensive line this season. Polamalu has the strong safety position locked down, but the question is who will play free safety? Ryan Clark and Tyrone Carter will battle it out in training camp. Whoever starts needs to be consistent or Polamalu will not be able to blitz as often.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Rodney Bailey	Seahawks	DE	6'3"	305
FA	NA	Ryan Clark	Redskins	S	5'11"	205
Rookie	1	Santonio Holmes	Ohio St.	WR	5'11"	190
Rookie	3	Anthony Smith	Syracuse	S	6'1"	194
Rookie	3	Willie Reid	Florida St.	WR	5'10"	186

TEAM STRATEGY

Playing As: Pittsburgh Steelers

1. Call plays that allow running back Willie Parker to use his speed to get to the outside where he can out run defenders.

2. If no receivers are open down, QB Ben Roethlisberger is mobile enough to scramble for yardage.

3. Have strong safety Troy Polamalu line up near the line of scrimmage so he can be a factor against the run or send him after the QB.

Playing Against: Pittsburgh Steelers

1. Force Parker inside where he is less effective as a runner.

2. In passing situations, make sure Hines Ward is taken out of the picture. Of the Steelers' receivers, he has the best hands.

3. Call blitz packages that bring Joey Porter and Clark Haggans in to put pressure on the quarterback and force turnovers.

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Ben Roethlisberger • Quarterback (QB) #7

Showcase Plays for Roethlsberger

Shotgun-Trips Bunch



Smash Slot Post

• This is one of the plays from the Shotgun-Trips Bunch that gives Roethlisberger plenty of options. The slot running the corner route is usually the first route most players will look to use. Once he makes his break to the corner, have Roethlisberger fire him a rocket. If the slot is not open, look for the tight end running the deep post.

Singleback-Big



PA Boot Lt

• This play action play gets Roethlisberger on the move to the outside on the left where he can use his vision and athletic ability to find the open receiver down the field. The two receivers we look to throw to are the tight end running the out route and the flanker running the post corner. Usually one of them will be open.



Key Attributes

Awareness	87
Speed	70
Throwing Power	92
Throwing Accuracy	88

Big Ben does not put up the same type of passing numbers as Peyton Manning or Tom Brady, but what he does do the same is win games. In just his second season, he led the Steelers to a Super Bowl win after guaranteeing teammate Jerome Bettis that he would get him his ring.

Troy Polamalu • Strong Safety (SS) #43

Showcase Plays for Polamalu

3-4-Solid



Inside Blitz

• Polamalu is at his best when he is near the line of scrimmage to create havoc against the run or pass. If the offense decides to call a pass play, the 3-4-Solid Inside Blitz gives Polamalu a chance to get to the quarterback in a hurry. He may not always register a sack, but what he will do is force the quarterback to get rid of the ball quickly.

Dime-Normal



Cover 3

• As good as Polamalu is near the line of scrimmage, he also has pass coverage skills. The Dime-Normal Cover 3 has him playing a hook zone. Often the opposing quarterback will not expect him to drop to underneath coverage. Just as he thinks his primary receiver is open, Polamalu is there to pick off the pass and go the other way.



Key Attributes

Awareness	80
Strength	87
Tackling	87
Speed	93

When looking at Troy Polamalu's stats on paper, he doesn't look like a playmaker on defense that opposing quarterbacks fear. After all he only had three sacks and two picks in 2005. But if you were to look at film and watch him for the duration of the game, you would see he makes plays all over the field by putting pressure on the quarterback or tackling ball carriers.

Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

- **Position:** HB
- **Substitution:** Duce Staley
- **When:** Goal line and third and short situations
- **Advantage:** Willie Parker has tremendous speed. He is the starting running back, but he doesn't have the bulk to be a dominant inside runner. Duce Staley is a solid ground pounder.

- **Position:** WR
- **Substitution:** Santonio Holmes
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** The Steelers need a receiver with speed to complement last year's Super Bowl MVP Hines Ward. Rookie Santonio Holmes fits the bill perfectly.

- **Position:** LOLB
- **Substitution:** Clark Haggans
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** This one is a no brainer. Clark Haggans is far better than default starter James Harrison. Haggans's overall rating is 90, while Harrison's overall rating is 77.

Fantasy Outlook

- **Star:** Ben Roethlisberger
- **Draft:** 10th round
- **2006 Outlook:** In the Steelers' ground attack offense, he will not post big passing numbers. Not a fantasy league starter, but he would make a solid backup.

- **Star:** Willie Parker
- **Draft:** 3rd round
- **2006 Outlook:** If fantasy leagues were based solely on yardage, he would be a number two back. But they aren't, so he's a third or fourth round pick

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Coaching Profile

Bill Cowher

- **Head Coaching Year:** 15th
- **Experience:** Began his coaching career in 1985 at age 28 under Marty Schottenheimer with the Browns.

Coached the Steelers last year to the Super Bowl. In 1995, at age 38, he became the youngest coach to lead his team to a Super Bowl. He has the longest tenure of any active head coach with the same team (15 years).

TEAM STRATEGY

Detailed Package Info

Pittsburgh Steelers

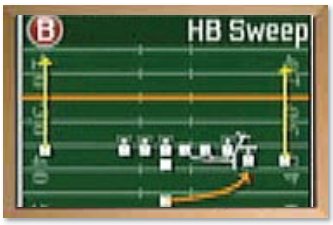
- **Formation:** Goal Line-Normal
- **Package:** Spell HB
- **Play:** HB Smash
- **Advantage:** Duce Staley is a more powerful inside runner than Willie Parker. With Staley in the backfield near the goal line, he increases the chances of scoring.

- **Formation:** Shotgun-Trips Bunch
- **Package:** Big
- **Play:** Read Middle
- **Advantage:** This gets an extra tight end into the lineup where he can function as a pass blocker or go out for a pass.

- **Formation:** 3-4-Solid
- **Package:** OLB Flip
- **Play:** Trio Sky Zone
- **Advantage:** Joey Porter is a beast as a pass rusher. This package switches him to left outside linebacker where he can make short work of the quarterback.

Key Offensive Plays

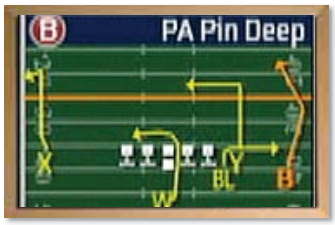
A Singleback-Twin TE
1st & 2nd using pass



• HB Sweep
Getting Willie Parker going in the run game is a must if you want the Steelers' passing game to be successful. This play gets Parker outside where he can use his speed. With the right guard pulling outside, there will be plenty of room to run.



B Singleback-Flip Trips
1st, 2nd and short yardage



• PA Pin Deep
Once the run game has been established, it's time to throw in some play action. This play gets Hines Ward deep where he can use his playmaking ability to make the catch. If Ward is not open, look for tight end Heath Miller underneath.



C Shotgun-Normal
1st & 2nd using pass



• TE Corner
Tight end Heath Miller had a solid season and was QB Ben Roethlisberger's security blanket. This is a good passing play to get Miller involved in the passing game against man coverage. Once he makes his break, throw him a high bullet pass for a big play downfield.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Shotgun-Trips Bunch	Clearout SE Out, Curls Attack, Twin Fades	**I Form-Big**	Counter Lead, HB Lead Dive, FB Dive Strong
Singleback-Trips Bunch	Smash Slot Post, PA Ctr 335, Clear SE Option	**Strong I-Jumbo**	FB Dive, HB Dive, HB Counter, HB Lead Blast

2005–06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Jeff Hartings	93	92	53	94
C	Chukky Okobi	81	87	53	74
C	Greg Warren	64	85	51	60
FB	Dan Kreider	91	78	63	80
HB	Willie Parker	87	68	97	78
HB	Duce Staley	82	73	84	87
HB	Verron Haynes	79	72	86	65
HB	Cedric Humes	73	74	86	48
LG	Alan Faneca	98	96	53	94
LG	Willie Colon	69	84	56	54
LT	Marvel Smith	89	97	50	86
LT	Trai Essex	73	85	57	60
QB	Ben Roethlisbergr	92	67	70	87
QB	Charlie Batch	76	58	45	80
QB	Omar Jacobs	71	63	74	42

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
RG	Kendall Simmons	85	90	56	75
RG	Chris Kemoeatu	70	95	44	45
RT	Max Starks	81	91	49	74
RT	Barrett Brooks	68	88	51	70
TE	Heath Miller	87	69	78	72
TE	Jerame Tuman	75	73	62	73
TE	Charles Davis	73	76	70	52
WR	Hines Ward	94	72	89	93
WR	Santonio Holmes	79	56	94	58
WR	Cedrick Wilson	77	49	91	75
WR	Quincy Morgan	76	51	91	67
WR	Nate Washington	62	42	88	54

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Key Defensive Plays

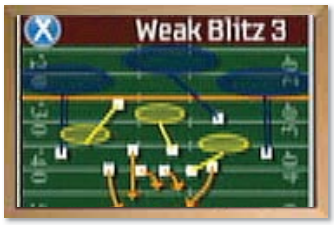
A 3-4-Solid
1st & 2nd to get the QB



• Sting Pinch
The Steelers' defense is very hard to run against. This play does a good job at plugging up the inside and outside running lanes. If you think the offense is going to run the ball, you will be hard pressed to find a better defense to call.



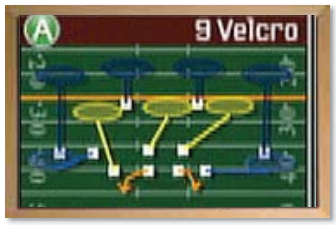
B 3-4-Under
1st & 2nd base defense



• Weak Blitz 3
Outside linebacker Joey Porter is a sacking machine. Call defenses that send him on a blitz so he can disrupt the opposing offense's passing attack. The Weak Blitz 3 sends Porter on a blitz from the left side of the offensive line.



C Nickel-2-4-5
3rd and long yardage aggressive



• 9 Velcro
This drops all the defenders into zone coverage except for the defensive tackles. If the offense is in a passing situation around the goal line, this is a good play call. The QB will have a hard time finding an open receiver.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
3-4-Solid	Steel Crush 3, Gap Lock Press, Clamp Double Go, Trio Sky Zone	**3-4-Over**	2 Man Under, Cover 3, Cover 2, Drop Zone Stunt
Nickel-2-4-5	Enagage Eight, Under Smoke, Rambo Fire 0, CB Fox Blitz	**Dime-3-2-6**	2 Man Under, Cover 3, 3 Deep Man, Cover 4

2005–06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Ike Taylor	85	64	94	77
CB	Bryant McFadden	80	60	89	74
CB	Ricardo Colclough	78	58	91	63
CB	Chidi Iwuoma	68	49	87	66
DT	Casey Hampton	97	98	58	86
DT	Chris Hoke	82	90	57	75
DT	Orien Harris	73	87	56	39
FS	Ryan Clark	82	58	87	72
FS	Anthony Smith	76	52	88	66
FS	Tyrone Carter	71	58	82	64
LE	Aaron Smith	89	86	69	86
LE	Rodney Bailey	75	78	65	71
LOLB	Clark Haggans	90	82	76	89
LOLB	James Harrison	77	81	76	66
MLB	James Farrior	94	80	79	91

Pos.	Depth	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Skill
MLB		Larry Foote	85	74	77	82
MLB		Clint Kriewaldt	78	79	70	75
MLB		Rian Wallace	69	74	73	62
RE		Brett Keisel	79	75	73	68
RE		Travis Kirschke	75	86	60	72
RG		Kendall Simmons	85		85	90
ROLB		Joey Porter	97	77	85	92
ROLB		Andre Frazier	70	70	75	60
SS		Troy Polamalu	98	69	93	80
SS		Mike Logan	80	71	83	82

Special Teams

K		Jeff Reed	85	42	51	74
P		Chris Gardocki	89	34	54	92

Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

Our great Super Bowl win has the players' agents seeing dollar signs. We've made the playoffs 2 years running, and we need to keep it going. We've got cap room. Now's not the time to be cheap.

Team Salary: 745M
Cap Room: 30.9M
Key Rival: Cleveland Browns
NFL Icons:
- Ben Roethlisberger
- Hines Ward

Philosophy:
- Offense: Establish Run
- Defense: Shut Down Runs

Prestige: High
Team Needs:
- Defensive Line
- Wide Receiver

Highest Paid Players:
- Marvel Smith
- Alan Faneca

Up and Coming Players:
- Santonio Holmes
- Anthony Smith

Team Trivia

Pittsburgh Steelers Facts

Answers are on the following page.

❶ The Steelers were not always known as the Steelers. What did they go by when they first came into the league?

❷ Chuck Noll and Bill Cowher each coached the Steelers to a 21-point, come-from-behind win. The Steelers did this under Cowher in 1997 against Baltimore. Against which team did Noll's Steelers achieve this feat?

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Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:
Terry Bradshaw ('70-'83) **2,025**

• Passing Yards:
Terry Bradshaw ('70-'83) **27,989**

• Passing Touchdowns:
Terry Bradshaw ('70-'83) **212**

• Receptions:
Hines Ward ('74-'06) **574**

• Receiving Yards:
John Stallworth ('74-'87) **8,723**

• Receiving Touchdowns:
John Stallworth ('74-'87) **63**

• Rushing Yards:
Franco Harris ('72-'83) **11,950**

• Rushing Touchdowns:
Franco Harris ('72-'83) **91**

• Career Points Leader:
Gary Anderson ('82-'94) **1,343**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:
Jason Gildon ('94-'03) **77**

• Interceptions:
Mel Blout ('70-'83) **57**

Team Trivia

Answers

❶ The Steelers were originally named the Pittsburgh Pirates.

❷ Buffalo Bills. In 1985, the Steelers trailed 21-0 in the second quarter and came back to win 30-24.

FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Pittsburgh, PA | **Starting Year:** 1933 | **League:** AFC

Franchise Beginnings

Originally founded in 1933 by Arthur J. Rooney as the Pittsburgh Pirates, the team changed its name to the Steelers in 1940. As the sixth-oldest franchise in the NFL, the Steelers emerged as an AFC powerhouse in the 1970s, advancing to the playoffs in eight straight seasons and winning four Super Bowls in six years, thanks to a high-powered offense and an intimidating defense known as the "Steel Curtain." The Steelers won the most recent Super Bowl (XL) by defeating the Seattle Seahawks 21-10.

Notable Moments

• Super Bowl XL
The Steelers won their fifth Super Bowl in franchise history by beating the Seattle Seahawks on February 6, 2006. Pittsburgh won on the strength of three big plays converted into touchdowns. Seattle, on the other hand, was plagued by controversial penalties, dropped balls, poor clock management, and a game-ending interception on a drive deep into Pittsburgh territory.

• The "Immaculate Reception"
On December 23, 1972, the Steelers trailed the Oakland Raiders 6-7 with 22 seconds left in an AFC playoff game. Facing fourth-and-10, Steelers quarterback Terry Bradshaw threw a pass that deflected off a player into the hands of running back Franco Harris for a shocking touchdown.

Notable Figures



Al Messerschmidt/WireImage.com

Terry Bradshaw ('70-'83)

This gifted quarterback from Louisiana Tech was the first player chosen in the 1970 draft. In his 14-season career, Bradshaw led the offense during the Steelers' dominant era of the 1970s, passing for 27,989 yards and 212 touchdowns. He was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1989 and is currently a TV football analyst.

Joe Greene ('69-'81)

Defensive tackle "Mean Joe" Greene was the cornerstone of the "Steel Curtain" defense that terrorized NFL offenses in the 1970s. Greene was named the NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year in 1969 and the NFL Defensive Player of the Year in 1972 and 1974. He was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1987.

Chuck Noll ('69-'91)

This Hall of Famer coached the Pittsburgh Steelers for 23 seasons from 1969 until 1991 and led the Steelers to four Super Bowl championships in a span of just six years during the 1970s. Under his guidance, the Steelers won nine AFC Central Division championships and posted a winning record in 15 of his last 20 seasons.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• In 1974, defensive tackle **Joe Greene** pioneered the tactic of lining up at a sharp angle between the guard and center to disrupt offensive blocking schemes.

• Team founder **Arthur J. Rooney** was the first Steeler elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1964.

• Despite the Steelers' long and storied history, only one number has ever been retired to date: **#70** (Ernie Stautner).

• The diamond shapes seen in the Steelers logo are called **hypocycloids**. The colors of each represent the following steel production-related items: yellow for coal, orange for ore, and blue for steel scrap.

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HOUSTON TEXANS

Location: AFC South | **Stadium:** Reliant Stadium | **Type:** Retractable Roof | **Capacity:** 69,500 | **Surface:** Grass

2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
2	14	0	260	431	2-6	0-8	1-11	1-3	0-6

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	85
Offense	85
Defense	84

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Team Rankings

Scoring	27th
Passing Offense	30th
Rushing Offense	15th
Passing Defense	24th
Rushing Defense	32nd
Turnovers	32nd

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• Let's not look at the Texans letting Reggie Bush slide, but look at the addition of wide receiver Eric Moulds who now brings another receiver to pair with Andre Johnson. Running back Domanick Davis is a talented back that can produce. The addition of center Mike Flanagan should also benefit the Texans offense.

Weaknesses

• Not drafting Reggie Bush is going to haunt this offense for the entire season, and if Domanick Davis doesn't have a breakout season things could get ugly from the Texan fans. If you can get past that, then the worries about having enough protection for Carr to get the ball to Eric Moulds becomes a key factor.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• The Texans focused on getting the pass rush taken care of this off-season with the additions of defensive ends Anthony Weaver and N.D. Kalu. After getting those players, the Texans added more depth by drafting defensive end Mario Williams. Pressure from the front four normally means good things for a defense.

Weaknesses

• Drafting Mario Williams means that he should come in and have an immediate impact on the play of the defense. This front four must get pressure on opposing quarterbacks to help the secondary improve from a horrible season with very few interceptions.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Eric Moulds	Bills	WR	6'2"	210
FA	NA	Antowain Smith	Saints	RB	6'2"	232
FA	NA	Jameel Cook	Buccaneers	RB	5'10"	237
Rookie	1	Mario Williams	N.C. State	DE	6'7"	294
Rookie	2	DeMeco Ryans	Alabama	LB	6'1"	235



Playing As: Houston Texans

1. Using the Texans could be a good thing because many players will not be using them and that by itself makes their offense and defensive playbooks unique.

2. They do have a good offense and a serviceable defense. On offense we take advantage of two stud receivers in Andre Johnson and Eric Moulds.

3. When the units switch and the defense is on the field, we can use Mario Williams to swat passes down or sack the QB.

Playing Against: Houston Texans

1. The Texans now have two receiving threats, so we must defend the pass. Before it didn't matter because there was only Andre Johnson.

2. Still try to bring heat on David Carr because he has limited accuracy. He has good arm strength but that's about it.

3. Versus the defense, just get past the linebackers and you're home free. The backers aren't fast but if we play to their strength then their lack of speed doesn't matter.

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TEAM STRATEGY

Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

- **Position:** HB 2
- **Substitution:** Antowain Smith
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** Smith will provide our team with a change of pace back and be the ball control back that we need to protect a lead. Smith is a very strong back who can run wear down a defense and keep the clock moving.

- **Position:** TE
- **Substitution:** Owen Daniels
- **When:** Big passing sets
- **Advantage:** We want to give the rookie a shot because he has great hands and good speed. When we add him to our lineup, the defense must now account for a TE who can move and catch like a receiver.

- **Position:** RT
- **Substitution:** Todd Wade
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** The Texans have been criticized for their line play over the years and we don't want that to be the case this season. Start Todd Wade to get a better overall pass and run blocker on the field.

Fantasy Outlook

- **Star:** Andre Johnson
- **Draft:** 5th round
- **2006 Outlook:** The Texans offense has potential to be explosive this season because of talent on the offensive side of the ball. Johnson looks to have his best season in 2006.

- **Star:** Domanick Davis
- **Draft:** 6th round
- **2006 Outlook:** Over the last few years, Davis has put up solid fantasy numbers as a rusher and receiver.

Star Players

Andre Johnson • Wide Receiver (WR) #80

Showcase Plays for Johnson

Shotgun-4WR



Johnson Option

• Andre Johnson is the primary receiver in the Texans' offense. He has big play potential, runs great routes, and has a good set of hands. In this play Johnson has an option route assignment. He recognizes the coverage by the defense and breaks his route off to a hook and makes the catch.

I-Form Normal



Weak Flood

• The best play to showcase how good Andre is with this route is the I Form-Normal Weak Flood. The play has him running a stop-and-go route. At the hike Johnson explodes off the ball and gets up on the DB, then he gives the hook fake and blows by the defender for a touchdown.



Key Attributes

Speed	95
Acceleration	94
Awareness	78
Catching	86

Johnson is one of the best receivers in the NFL and is quickly making a name for himself in a conference with the best receivers in the game. He has Pro Bowl talent and a unique combination of speed and strength. Johnson is also pretty good at run blocking and can come down on a corner with a vicious crack block.

Mario Williams • Defensive End (RE) #90

Showcase Plays for Williams

4-3-Normal



OLB Fire 3

• We can see right away just how good Mario Williams is by running the 4-3-Normal OLB Fire 3. The play has him on an outside rush to use his speed. Right after the hike, Williams has beat the left tackle and turned the corner to deliver a crushing blow to the quarterback and take him down for a sack.

4-3-Normal



QB Contain

• With a player that has the athletic skills of Mario Williams, we can also use him in pass coverage. The QB Contain lets Mario Williams drop into coverage and pay the short curl zone. The offense tries to beat our defense with crossing drag routes. Mario sees the drag coming and steps up and delivers a blow to the receiver, dislodging him from the ball.



Key Attributes

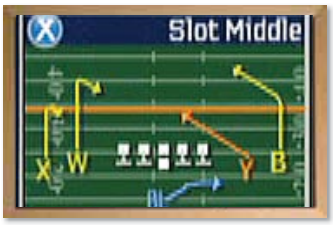
Speed	85
Strength	75
Awareness	40
Tackling	76

He has yet to prove himself in the NFL, but look for Mario Williams to become a star at some time during the year. At 6'7" Williams is a huge defensive end but his speed is what makes him scary. He reminds many people of the young Jevon Kearse, who dominated the league in his rookie season.

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Key Offensive Plays

A — Singleback-4WR
3rd down



• Slot Middle
To get David Carr started on the right track we run the slot middle, as this is one of the harder routes to defend. At the hike the slot takes off on an angle route to the middle of the field and Carr hits him for a first down.



B — Strong I-Normal
1st, 2nd



• HB Blast
We use the HB Blast to get Domanick Davis a chance to get the ball on a quick-developing run play. At the snap Davis takes the handoff, sees that the hole is not open, and bounces it out to pick up seven yards on the play.



C — Weak I-Normal
1st, 2nd



• Slants
The Slants are very effective and with a big bodied, sure-handed receiver like Moulds, its no wonder he hauls in the catch for the positive gain.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Shotgun-Trey Open	WR Deep Hook, Strong Overload, Slant Hook, HB Screen	**SIngleback-Big 3TE**	HB Power, HB Counter, HB Sprint, Weak Toss
Singleback-Normal Slot	Deep Attack, PA Comeback, WR Fade, WR Drag	**Strong I-Twin WR**	Strong Stretch, HB Power, HB Lead Blast, HB Dive

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Mike Flanagan	92	87	55	92
C	Drew Hodgdon	71	83	52	6
FB	Jameel Cook	81	64	70	62
HB	Domanick Davis	90	68	92	85
HB	Antowain Smith	80	76	82	85
HB	Vernand Morency	76	64	90	52
HB	Wali Lundy	73	72	86	50
LG	Chester Pitts	81	89	56	76
LG	David Loverne	77	88	48	76
LT	Seth Wand	76	89	51	72
LT	Charles Spencer	67	92	50	50
QB	David Carr	84	64	67	77
QB	Sage Rosenfels	73	52	57	70
QB	Quinton Porter	69	58	70	55
RG	Steve McKinney	85	87	58	86

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
RG	Fred Weary	74	86	52	66
RT	Todd Wade	84	93	49	82
RT	Zach Wiegert	83	87	51	88
RT	Eric Winston	74	84	62	60
TE	Jeb Putzier	84	72	75	74
TE	Mark Bruener	79	80	56	82
TE	Owen Daniels	73	64	82	55
WR	Andre Johnson	89	70	95	78
WR	Eric Moulds	87	69	91	88
WR	Jerome Mathis	74	44	97	55
WR	Derick Armstrong	71	52	88	62
WR	Kevin Walter	67	57	84	60

Coaching Profile

Dom Capers

- **Head Coaching Year:** 1st
- **Experience:** Prior to coming to Houston, Kubiak served as the offensive coordinator for the Denver Broncos.

Kubiak began as the offensive coordinator/quarterbacks coach to his former teammate, Elway. During the final four years of his career (1995-98), Elway tossed 101 touchdown passes, second only to Brett Favre in that span.

Detailed Package Info

Houston Texans

- **Formation:** Singleback-Big
- **Package:** TE Swap
- **Play:** PA Rollout
- **Advantage:** This package gives us the chance to flip flop our TEs and create match ups based on the play we run.

- **Formation:** Weak I-Tight Twins
- **Package:** HB Flanker
- **Play:** PA Slot Corner
- **Advantage:** We use this package to get Davis out as a receiver and because of the speed of our backup HB, Davis can be a decoy and open the run up even more.

- **Formation:** Nickel-Normal
- **Package:** Strong Shift
- **Play:** Man QB Spy
- **Advantage:** Instead of leaving our nickel back playing the slot, we move our number-one corner into the nickel position. Great for playing against Twin formations.

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Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

The parking rates are reasonable and the fans aren't complaining. Our ticket prices are right where they should be. Merchandise prices are right where they should be. Our coach salaries are well below the league average.

Team Salary: 97.1M
Cap Room: 8.33M
Key Rival: Tennessee Titans
NFL Icons:
- Eric Moulds
- Andre Johnson

Philosophy:
- Offense: Ball Control
- Defense: Force the Pass

Prestige: Low
Team Needs:
- Linebacker
- Defensive Back

Highest Paid Players:
- Mario Williams
- David Carr

Up and Coming Players:
- Mario Williams
- DeMeco Ryanst

Team Trivia

Houston Texans Facts

Answers are on the following page.

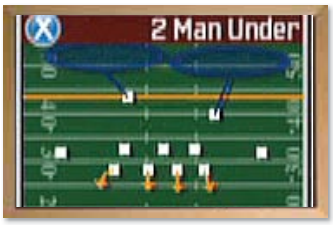
1 Who was the first pick by the Texans in the 2002 NFL draft?

2 Who did the Houston Texans get their first win against in the regular season?

Key Defensive Plays

A 4-3-Normal

1st & 2nd base defense



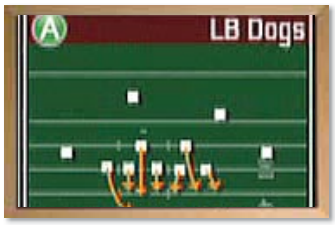
• 2 Man Under

The 4-3-Normal 2 Man Under is a base defense, but it lets our defensive ends attack using an outside rush. The offense did not know how fast Mario Williams is, and he sacks the QB just after the snap.



B 4-3-Over

1st, 2nd



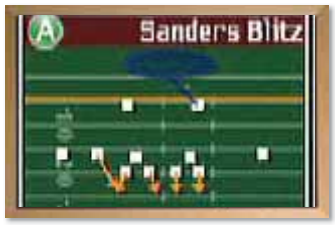
• LB Dogs

This is a seven-man blitz with man coverage in the secondary. As soon as the play begins, Morlon Greenwood rounds the corner and explodes through the quarterback for a sack.



C Nickel

3rd and long



• Sanders Blitz

When we have pressure blitzes like this we add bump-n-run coverage. When the QB hikes the ball, Sanders has a clear path to him and forces an incompletion.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
4-3-Over	Engage Eight, LB Dogs, Fire Man, Zone Blitz	**Nickel-3-3-5**	Under 7 Slice, Cover 1, 3 Man Under, 2 Deep Robber
Nickel-Strong	Engage Eight, Strong Man, FS Snake Blitz 3, Under Smoke	**Dime Normal**	Cover 2 Pinch, Cover 1, Quarters Zone, Quarters Man

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Dunta Robinson	90	57	96	78
CB	Phillip Buchanon	83	42	97	71
CB	DeMarcus Faggins	73	45	88	66
CB	Lewis Sanders	70	49	86	64
CB	Chris McKenzie	69	44	90	58
DT	Robaire Smith	87	88	65	77
DT	Seth Payne	86	90	53	87
DT	Travis Johnson	79	84	65	57
DT	Alfred Malone	67	82	62	52
FS	C.C. Brown	77	62	86	65
FS	Jason Simmons	73	49	86	67
LE	Anthony Weaver	85	84	67	76
LE	Ndukwe Kalu	80	69	75	78
LOLB	Kailee Wong	84	74	75	87
LOLB	Shantee Orr	73	70	74	72

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
MLB	Sam Cowart	86	81	73	88
MLB	Wali Rainer	79	77	74	78
MLB	DaShon Polk	74	70	74	73
RE	Mario Williams	86	75	85	40
RE	Jason Babin	83	69	79	68
RE	Antwan Peek	81	68	79	67
ROLB	Morlon Greenwood	86	67	85	81
ROLB	DeMeco Ryans	79	69	78	65
SS	Glenn Earl	79	65	86	68
SS	Michael Stone	69	49	90	64

Special Teams

K	Kris Brown	80	26	44	72
P	Chad Stanley	76	33	58	73

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Houston, TX | **Starting Year:** 2002 | **League:** AFC

Franchise Beginnings

Filling the void left by the departure of the Oilers in 1996, the Houston Texans are the NFL's newest franchise. The team started play in the 2002 NFL season. Owner Robert C. McNair was responsible for bringing this NFL expansion team to Houston, beating out Los Angeles in the process and paying a record $700 million for the franchise rights. The team plays in Reliant Stadium, a state-of-the-art facility that features an innovative retractable roof to accommodate indoor and outdoor play.

Notable Moments

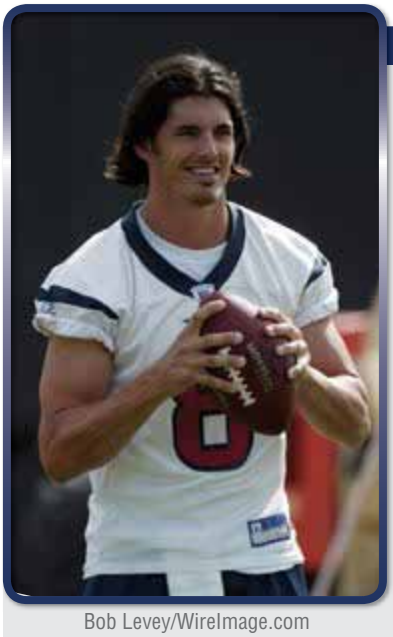
• Upset of Miami Dolphins

On September 7, 2003, the Texans stunned the Miami Dolphins 21-20 in the first game of the season. With that win, the Texans become the first-ever NFL expansion team to win its regular season opener in both its first and second years in operation.

• Texans Shut Out Jaguars

On December 26, 2004, the Texans beat the Jaguars 21-0 at Jacksonville. It was the first-ever shutout for the Texans, as the defense held Jacksonville to 126 total net yards. Texans running back Domanick Davis posted a career-high 150 yards rushing.

Notable Figures



Bob Levey/WireImage.com

David Carr ('02-'05)

This highly sought quarterback from Fresno State was the first overall selection of the 2002 NFL Draft and the first-ever draft pick for the Texans. Carr is one of the league's rising young quarterbacks and is coming off his best season, setting new career marks in completions (285), passing yards (3,531), and touchdown passes (16).

Dom Capers ('01-'05)

As head coach, Capers was hired to oversee the growth of a young but talented expansion team that has steadily improved under his watch. In 2004, the team set new records in nine categories, including total yards (5,128), touchdowns (37), and points (309). He has experience with expansion teams, having coached the Carolina Panthers from 1995-1998.

Robert C. McNair ('99-'05)

Team owner McNair formed Houston NFL Holdings in 1998 to bring the NFL's 32nd football franchise to his hometown of Houston, where he has lived since 1960. An extremely successful business man, he's perhaps best known outside of football circles as the founder of Cogen Technologies, which was sold in 1999.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• When Houston beat the Dallas Cowboys 19-10 in the franchise's first-ever regular-season game, it marked the first time that an **expansion team won its opening game** since the Minnesota Vikings upset the Chicago Bears in 1961.

• The five original proposed team names for the franchise were the **Apollos**, **Bobcats**, **Stallions**, **Texans**, and **Wildcatters**.

• The retractable roof of Reliant Stadium is made out of a strong but translucent fabric that can withstand winds of up to **100 m.p.h**. The roof can be closed in just **7 minutes**.

• The first two Texans elected to the Pro Bowl were cornerback **Aaron Glenn** and defensive end **Gary Walker** following the 2002 season.

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:		
David Carr ('02-'06)		941
• Passing Yards:		
David Carr ('02-'06)		10,624
• Passing Touchdowns:		
David Carr ('02-'06)		48
• Receptions:		
Andre Johnson ('03-'06)		208
• Receiving Yards:		
Andre Johnson ('03-'06)		3,195
• Receiving Touchdowns:		
Corey Bradford ('02-'04)		18
• Rushing Yards:		
Domanick Davis ('03-'05)		3,195
• Rushing Touchdowns:		
Domanick Davis ('03-'06)		21
• Career Points Leader:		
Kris Brown ('02-'06)		341

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:		
Kailee Wong ('02-'06)		16
• Interceptions:		
Marcus Coleman ('02-'05)		11

Team Trivia

Answers

1. **David Carr, QB.**
2. **Dallas Cowboys.**

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TENNESSEE TITANS

Division: AFC South | **Stadium:** The Coliseum | **Type:** Open | **Capacity:** 68,798 | **Surface:** Grass



2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
4	12	0	299	421	3-5	1-7	3-9	1-3	2-4

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	85
Offense	85
Defense	86

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Team Rankings

Scoring	21st
Passing Offense	9th
Rushing Offense	23rd
Passing Defense	17th
Rushing Defense	22nd
Turnovers	27th

TEAM STRATEGY

Playing As: Tennessee Titans

1. The Titans have a young offense with a lot of promising players. To start they have Vince Young who is still playing on a lot of raw talent.

2. With him at QB, use the big receivers and the fast TE Ben Troupe to wear down the opposing defense.

3. On the defensive side of the ball the Titans have speed at the corner positions and should be able to run with any receiver in the game, even Randy Moss.

Playing Against: Tennessee Titans

1. Vince Young really has a low release so it is possible to deflect a lot of passes when he is in at QB.

2. We have to defend him just as we would Michael Vick and force him to stay in the pocket with QB spys and contain assignments

3. Against the Titans defense, start your attack on the right side versus the undersized right D-end. If we can force Bulluck to focus more on helping on the line then the rest of the defense can be cracked.

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• Many of the players from the Super Bowl team are gone, but the new group of players is young and capable of making a difference. At quarterback the Titans have Billy Volek and rookie Vince Young. The receiver position has been upgraded with the addition of David Givens. The offense could become a whole lot meaner with the leadership of new center Kevin Mawae.

Weaknesses

• A bomb has hit the Titans with the loss of Steve McNair. How will the offense rebound from not having the leader and fabric of the team? Will Billy Volek be able to add wins to his resume or will he stay a stats QB who doesn't win? There is also a concern that Vince Young may be thrown into a starting role too early. That would be the worst thing to happen this season.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• Free Agents were a key this off-season for the Titans defense as they tried to get the defense back on track by adding strong safety Chris Hope and outside linebacker David Thornton. These additions should go well with playmaker linebacker Keith Bulluck who has been holding things down by himself for a while.

Weaknesses

• The Titans keep taking hits to the secondary and this off-season they lost Tank Williams to the Vikings. Chris Hope has Super Bowl experience but will it be enough to strengthen a thin secondary unit? The new additions must also work together and eyes will be on this unit to see if they together and perform better than last year.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	David Givens	Patriots	WR	6'0"	215
FA	NA	Chris Hope	Steelers	S	5'11"	206
FA	NA	Kevin Mawae	Jets	C	6'4"	289
Rookie	1	Vince Young	Texas	QB	6'5"	228
Rookie	2	LenDale White	USC	RB	6'0"	237

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Vince Young • Quarterback (QB) #10

Showcase Plays for Young

Shotgun-Trips TE



TE Go

• The Shotgun Trips formation puts Young in a setting that he was successful with in college. At the snap Vince reads the pass defense and just to establish the respect of the defense he takes off around the right side for a ton of yards.

Shotgun-Trips



TE Clearouts

• Vince takes the snap and sees two options he can take on this play. He has the streak for big yards or the out for the 5 yards plus any YAC. Of course he takes the Streak.



Key Attributes

Awareness	56
Overall	82
Throwing Power	92
Throwing Accuracy	82

Who cares if he's ready to play or not? This is *Madden NFL Football* and Vince Young is going to be started by players using the Titans. Vince Young joins the scene with the unique blend of height and speed. At 6'5" Vince is a taller Michael Vick with a more accurate arm and he's the second fastest quarterback in the game.

Keith Bulluck • Linebacker (ROLB) #53

Showcase Plays for Bulluck

46-Bear



2 Man Under

• Everyone knows how dominant Keith Bulluck is when defending the run. Sometimes we forget to mention how good he is with playing pass defense. The 46-Bear 2 Man Under has Bulluck in man coverage with the tight end. At the snap the tight end tries to get free but Bulluck plays coverage so well that the offense has to look elsewhere.

4-3-Under



LB Contain

• When the QB takes the hike and starts to roll slightly left, Bulluck charges up field and prevents the QB from getting wide. Once the QB makes a step up field Bullucks slams him to the turf for a sack.



Key Attributes

Speed	86
Strength	73
Awareness	86
Tackling	90

Each team has a player that represents the attitude of the team and Keith Bulluck is that player. He is a relentless defender that gets after the ball and in *Madden NFL Football* he is a true ball hawk. If he is in the area then he's making something happen. He has the speed to play a back in the pass game and is a sure tackler.

Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

- **Position:** QB
- **Substitution:** Vince Young
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** Yeah, don't rush him to start, well it's already too late. Vince Young is too much of a talent to have him sitting around. We get him off and running right away and let him show just hard it is to defend a 6'5" QB who can run like Vick.

- **Position:** HB 2
- **Substitution:** LenDale White
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** He is only the number-one scoring back in USC history and when you consider O.J. Simpson went there and White played along with Reggie Bush and still put up those numbers, he has to get on the field.

- **Position:** RE
- **Substitution:** Travis LaBoy
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** Having LaBoy on the field gives us a stronger and better tackling defensive end.

Fantasy Outlook

- **Star:** Chris Brown
- **Draft:** 4th round
- **2006 Outlook:** There's no question Brown has the talent to be a successful running back, but he gets injured too often, plus the Titans have two running backs behind him who are equally as good.

- **Star:** Drew Bennett
- **Draft:** 9th round
- **2006 Outlook:** Don't expect him to put up anywhere near the same type of numbers he has put up over the last few seasons until the Titan quarterback situation becomes stable.

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Coaching Profile

Jeff Fisher

- **Head Coaching Year:** 13th
- **Experience:** Assisted defensive coordinator Buddy Ryan in Bears' 1985 Super Bowl championship season after being placed on injured reserve with ankle injury.

Last year with a win over the Houston Texans (10/9/05), he became the 34th NFL coach to reach 100 career wins and 10th among active coaches. He also became just the 17th coach to reach the mark with one team.

Detailed Package Info

Tennessee Titans

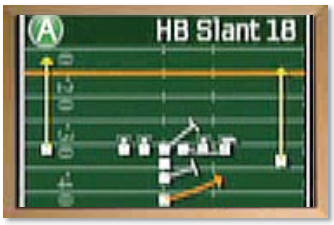
- **Formation:** I Form-Big
- **Package:** TE Swap
- **Play:** Troupe Option
- **Advantage:** Ben Troupe is our TE of choice, and we use this package to get him running the better pass route to take advantage of his size and speed.

- **Formation:** Weak I-H Pro
- **Package:** TE Backfield
- **Play:** FB Power
- **Advantage:** Size and speed. Puts Troupe in at FB where he can run the ball or add more protection. Also great if we flare him out on a flat route.

- **Formation:** 46-Bear
- **Package:** 46-Swap
- **Play:** 2 Man Under
- **Advantage:** Puts our regular 46 alignment in while running the Bear. Leaves us balanced in the secondary instead of having both safeties to one side.

Key Offensive Plays

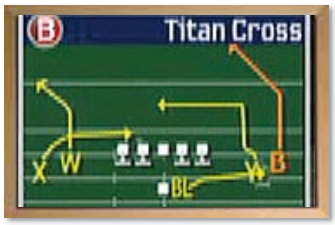
A — I Form-Normal
1st, 2nd



• HB Slant 18
The HB 18 is a great play for Chris Brown and lets him establish his presence on the field. At the snap and after the handoff he reads the hole and cuts inside and back out to take the play for a big gain up the sideline.



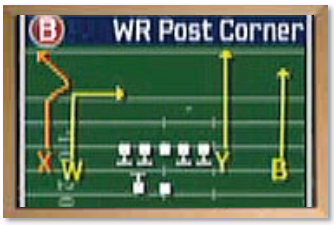
B — Shotgun-4WR
3rd down



• Titan Cross
Billy Volek has big shoes to fill with the departure of Steve McNair. He shows how accurate his arm is by hitting our slot receiver cutting across the back of the end zone for the touchdown.



C — Shotgun-Normal Offset WK
3rd and long



• WR Post Corner
Drew Bennett is our best receiver. In this play he is normally open versus man coverage after he get the DB to bite on the double move. He is seen here catching the ball after beating the defender.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Singleback-Empty 5 WR	Stagger Posts, X-Clown, Slot Flats, All Curls	**Singleback-Tight Flex**	HB Counter Wk, HB Slam, HB Draw, Off Tackle
Singleback-Tight Flex	PA Waggle, WR Option, Shallow Cross, Slot Corner	**Weak I-H Twins**	FB Power, HB Gut, HB Dive, HB Counter

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Kevin Mawae	95	92	55	97
C	Eugene Amano	73	83	58	64
FB	Troy Fleming	75	71	85	54
HB	Chris Brown	86	77	89	80
HB	Travis Henry	84	76	87	83
HB	LenDale White	79	74	87	45
LG	Zach Piller	87	92	52	85
LG	Jacob Bell	81	89	52	65
LT	Michael Roos	81	89	56	73
LT	Wendell Singletary	63	87	40	53
QB	Billy Volek	84	50	55	83
QB	Vince Young	82	68	89	56
QB	Matt Mauck	65	57	64	55
RG	Benji Olson	89	93	46	90
RG	Cody Douglas	70	90	48	59

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
RT	David Stewart	74	85	50	66
RT	Daniel Loper	72	82	54	65
TE	Erron Kinney	88	78	66	83
TE	Ben Troupe	86	73	83	67
TE	Bo Scaife	74	63	77	65
WR	David Givens	87	68	89	85
WR	Drew Bennett	86	63	89	88
WR	Tyrone Calico	77	68	92	63
WR	Brandon Jones	77	56	90	61
WR	Bobby Wade	76	44	90	74
WR	Courtney Roby	73	45	93	61
WR	Roydell Williams	72	52	87	55

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Key Defensive Plays

A 4-3-Normal
1st, 2nd



• Free Fire
We have a great defensive end in Kyle Vanden Bosch. He has a constantly running motor and in this play he gets pressure immediately after the snap. Before the quarterback can make a move to avoid the sack, Vanden Bosch is planting him in the dirt.



B Dime-Flat
Passing situations



• DB Blitz
Sometimes we want to just blitz a corner instead of a linebacker so we run to the DB Blitz from the Dime Flat. Our dime back Gardner provides the pressure and comes around the corner and gets to the QB before he makes the throw.



C 4-3 Normal
1st, 2nd, 3rd



• Double Z
Our defense shows how we bring pressure from a base formation. The Double Z gives us pressure up front while preventing clean releases off the line. The play of our DT Haynesworth gets him a sack on the quarterback.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
4-3-Normal	Engage Eight, Safety Blitz, Thunder Smoke, Zip Shoot Gut	**Nickel-Strong**	Cloud Zone, 2 Man Under, 1 Robber, Cover 2
46-Bear	Bengal Fire 3, Plug Cover 1, Wall Stunt, Wall Cover 4	**Dime-Flat**	Cover 1 LB Spy, Cover 2, 4 Deep Safe, DB Contain

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Reynaldo Hill	82	46	89	76
CB	Pacman Jones	82	47	96	66
CB	Andre Woolfolk	77	54	92	65
CB	Michael Waddell	74	45	95	54
CB	Rich Gardner	65	51	87	52
DT	Albert Haynesworth	89	92	64	67
DT	Randy Starks	84	87	64	65
DT	Rien Long	75	78	64	65
DT	Jared Clauss	73	86	53	62
FS	Lamont Thompson	83	59	87	72
FS	Vincent Fuller	67	60	88	48
LE	Kyle Vanden Bosch	88	81	72	82
LE	Bo Schobel	72	70	69	60
LOLB	David Thornton	89	74	77	87
LOLB	Jared Newberry	66	72	78	55
MLB	Peter Sirmon	85	75	75	86
MLB	Rob Reynolds	64	72	76	59
RE	Travis LaBoy	79	70	75	65
RE	Antwan Odom	75	69	75	54
ROLB	Keith Bulluck	96	73	86	86
ROLB	Cody Spencer	61	74	71	54
SS	Chris Hope	86	68	89	75
SS	Donnie Nickey	73	60	85	68
SS	Calvin Lowry	73	60	84	64

Special Teams

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
K	Rob Bironas	78	40	42	60
P	Craig Hentrich	91	48	56	90

Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

We've got to make it back to the post season to boost revenue. We're spending the same on stadium maintenance as most teams. The fans are generally happy with ticket prices. We've got plenty of room under the cap to make an important hire.

Team Salary: 64.3M
Cap Room: 41.1M
Key Rival: Pittsburgh Steelers
NFL Icons:
- None

Philosophy:
- Offense: Establish Run
- Defense: Shut Down Runs

Prestige: Low
Team Needs:
- Running Back
- Defensive Back

Highest Paid Players:
- Vince Young
- Keith Bulluck

Up and Coming Players:
- Randy Starks
- Pacman Jones

Team Trivia

Tennessee Titans Facts

Answers are on the following page.

1 Who returned a kickoff 80 yards for a TD for the Titans against the Jacksonville Jaguars, during the 1999 AFC Championship game?

2 The Titans made it to Super Bowl XXXIV as a wildcard team, meaning they had to play three playoff games. They beat the Bills in the first of these and the Jaguars in the third. Which team did they defeat in between?

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Houston, TX | **Starting Year:** 1960 | **League:** AFC

Franchise Beginnings

Originally known as the Houston Oilers, this franchise was a charter member of the AFL in 1960 and won league championships in 1960 and 1961. After the team joined the NFL in 1970, it won the AFC Central Divison in 1991 and 1993. The team moved to Tennessee after the 1996 season and changed its name to the Titans in 1999. A year later, the team earned a trip to Super Bowl XXXIV and fell just short of an NFL championship.

Notable Moments

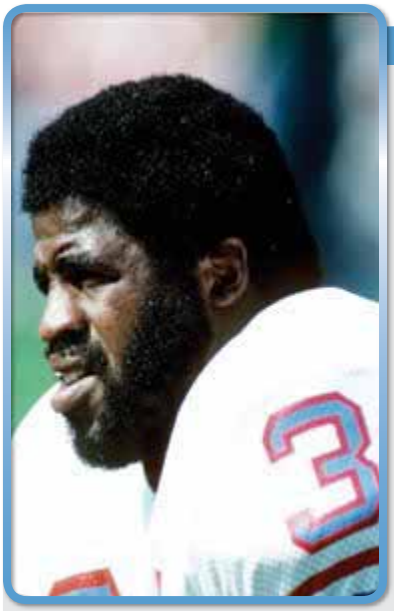
• Super Bowl XXXIV

Although the Titans lost to the St. Louis Rams 16-23 on January 30, 2000, it was a close contest. With six seconds left, the Titans tried to tie the game with a pass to receiver Kevin Dyson, who was tackled short of the end zone.

• First AFL Championship

The Oilers won the first-ever AFL Championship by beating the Los Angeles Chargers 24-16 on New Year's Day of 1961. Houston running back Billy Cannon was named the game's most valuable player while quarterback George Blanda passed for 301 yards and three touchdowns.

Notable Figures



Al Messerschmidt/WireImage.com

Earl Campbell ('78-'84)

As the first player taken in the 1978 NFL draft, Campbell emerged as one of the franchise's all-time running backs. As a rookie, he was named the NFL's most valuable player in 1978, and he lead the league in rushing for three seasons (1978-1980). He was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1991.

Mike Munchak ('82-'93)

Munchak was the Oilers' first-round draft pick in 1982 and developed into one of the team's best offensive linemen ever. He played a key role in improving the Oilers' offense as a top blocker and pass play protector. He was named to seven All-AFC teams and joined the Hall of Fame in 2001.

Elvin Bethea ('68-'83)

Bethea played defensive end for the Oilers from 1968-1983 and retired having played a team record 16 seasons and the most consecutive regular season games (135). He is also the team's all-time career sack leader. Bethea is the newest Oilers player in the Hall of Fame, having been inducted in 2003.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• The franchise has retired five uniform numbers: **#34** (Earl Campbell), **#43** (Jim Norton), **#63** (Mike Munchak), **#65** (Elvin Bethea), and **#74** (Bruce Matthews).

• In its first year in Tennessee, the franchise played its home games at the **Liberty Bowl** in Memphis, Tenn. The Titans now play in Nashville.

• When the team changed its name to the Titans, the NFL made the unusual move of **"retiring"** the Oilers name, which ensured that the Oilers' winning legacy would remain intact in football history books.

• The Titans mascot is **T-Rac**, a raccoon who enjoys dining on rotisserie raven, jaguar jerky, bengal kabobs, and ram on a stick.

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

• Passing Completions:
Warren Moon ('84-'93) **2,632**

• Passing Yards:
Warren Moon ('84-'93) **33,685**

• Passing Touchdowns:
Warren Moon ('84-'93) **196**

• Receptions:
Ernest Givins ('86-'94) **542**

• Receiving Yards:
Ernest Givins ('86-'94) **7,935**

• Receiving Touchdowns:
Charlie Hennigan ('60-'66) **51**

• Rushing Yards:
Eddie George ('96-'03) **10,009**

• Rushing Touchdowns:
Earl Campbell ('78-'84) **73**

• Career Points Leader:
Al Del Greco ('91-'00) **1,060**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Sacks:
Elvin Bethea ('68-'83) **105**

• Interceptions:
Jim Norton ('60-'68) **45**

Team Trivia

Answers

1 Derrick Mason

2 The Titans won in Indianapolis, 19-16

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MINNESOTA VIKINGS

Division: NFC North | **Stadium:** The Metrodome™ | **Type:** Dome | **Capacity:** 64,121 | **Surface:** Turf

2005 Standings

W	L	TIES	PF	PA	HOME	ROAD	vs AFC	vs NFC	vs DIV
9	7	0	306	344	6-2	3-5	1-3	8-4	5-1

Team Statistics

Team Ratings

Overall Rating	86
Offense	87
Defense	87

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

Team Rankings

Scoring	19th
Passing Offense	20th
Rushing Offense	27th
Passing Defense	22nd
Rushing Defense	19th
Turnovers	5th

Scouting Report

Offensive Analysis

Strengths

• Stability is what comes to mind when most think of veteran quarterback Brad Johnson. He does not have the legs or arm strength of departed Daunte Culpepper, but he is consistent and knows how to be a leader. The Vikings' offensive line will be much stronger with the addition of left guard Steve Hutchinson and return of center Matt Birk.

Weaknesses

• Koren Robinson proved to be an impact player as a return man in 2005 for the Vikings, but now he must step up his play as the team's number-one receiver. Outside of Robinson, there is no real threat. If Johnson goes down to injury, ex-Eagle quarterback Mike McMahon is not the answer to lead the team into the playoffs.

Defensive Analysis

Strengths

• The Vikes gave up 115 yards a game against the run in 2005. They will see those numbers drop in 2006. Defensive tackles Kevin Williams and Pat Williams should be able to keep linemen off the linebackers so they can make plays on the ball carrier. Fred Smoot and Antoine Winfield form a nice combination at cornerback. Free Safety Darren Sharper is a ball hawk.

Weaknesses

• The Vikings did not have much of a pass rush in 2005. They only managed to bring the opposing quarterback down 34 times. For the defense to improve on that number, defensive ends Kenechi Udeze and Erasmus James must be able to bring the heat off the edge. Otherwise the new Cover 2 scheme will falter and the Vikings could be in a lot of trouble.

Off-Season Upgrades

Type	Round	Player	School/Team	Position	Height	Weight
FA	NA	Steve Hutchinson	Seahawks	OG	6'5"	315
FA	NA	Ben Leber	Chargers	LB	6'3"	244
FA	NA	Tank Williams	Titans	SS	6'3"	223
Rookie	1	Chad Greenway	Iowa	OLB	6'3"	243
Rookie	2	Cedric Griffin	Texas	CB	6'0"	198



Playing As: Minnesota Vikings

1. Throw short, high percentage passes with Brad Johnson. That's when he is at his best.
2. When inside the red zone, look for Koren Robinson. He is a great target with his height and jumping ability.
3. Run Chester Taylor behind center Matt Birk and left guard Steve Hutchinson.

Playing Against: Minnesota Vikings

1. Force the Vikings into third and long situations by blitzing on first and second down.
2. Avoid running the ball inside. Defensive tackles Kevin Williams and Pat Williams do a good job at plugging up the holes.
3. Avoid throwing the ball at free safety Darren Sharper. He has a knack for picking off passes.

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Roster Tips

Key Player Substitutions

- **Position:** WR
- **Substitution:** Troy Williamson
- **When**: Global
- **Advantage:** Williamson is the number-three receiver on the depth chart. He needs to be moved up to number two so he can use his speed to stretch the defense.

- **Position:** RT
- **Substitution:** Mike Rosenthal
- **When**: Global
- **Advantage:** The Vikings have a formidable offensive line, but Marcus Johnson is not ready to take over as the starter at right tackle. We like Mike Rosenthal because he is a better run and pass blocker than Johnson.

- **Position:** DT
- **Substitution:** Kevin Williams
- **When:** Global
- **Advantage:** Pat Williams is one of the best run stuffing defensive tackles in the game, but his pass rushing skills leave something to be desired. Switch him with Kevin Williams so that he will line up as nose tackle in three lineman sets.

Fantasy Outlook

- **Star:** Chester Taylor
- **Draft:** 3rd round
- **2006 Outlook:** He has all the tools to put up big numbers in 2006. Playing as a primary backup to Jamal Lewis, Taylor averaged 4.2 yards a carry in 2005

- **Star:** Koren Robinson
- **Draft:** 8th round
- **2006 Outlook:** He looks to be the team's number-one receiver in 2006. He should be good for at least a 1,000 yards and 8 touchdowns.

Star Players

Brad Johnson • Quarterback (QB) #14

Showcase Plays for Culpepper



Key Attributes

Awareness	92
Speed	46
Throwing Power	86
Throwing Accuracy	93

When Daunte Culpepper went down with a season-ending injury, most experts thought the Vikings were dead in the water. However, Brad Johnson took over the reins and led Minnesota almost into the playoffs. Johnson is not going to do anything flashy, but he brings consistency and stability to the team.

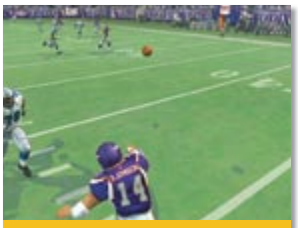
Split Backs Normal



Curl Flats

- Johnson is dangerous when he has time in the pocket to look over the coverage. The Curl Flats has several options for Johnson. If the defense plays Cover 2 man, look for the split end or the flanker running curls. If the defensive coverage is soft, look to dump the pass off to one of the backs in the flats.

Singleback Slot Strong



PA Boot Rt

- To establish the play action pass, the offense must be able to run the ball effectively. If the run game is established, it will help take the pressure off of Johnson. Once Johnson comes out of the play action fake, take control of him and look for the tight end running the whip route to the right.

Koren Robinson • Wide Receiver (WR) #18

Showcase Plays for Robinson



Key Attributes

Acceleration	75
Awareness	94
Catching	85
Speed	93

Koren Robinson had success as receiver when he played in Seattle for four seasons. He will be expected to be the team's number-one receiver in 2006 and he looks to be up to the challenge. Do not be surprised to see him put up elite receiver numbers this year.

Singleback 4WR



Flex Slants

- When you need to beat zone coverage, the Singleback 4WR Flex Slants is a solid pass play to call. Robinson runs a slant route on the right. Once he breaks toward the middle of the field, make the throw. Watch for defenders dropping in hook zones because they could be in position to knock down the ball or pick it off.

Near Normal



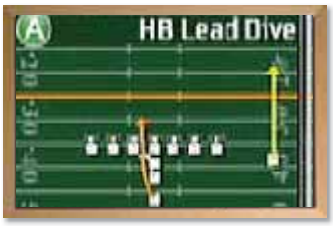
WR Shake

- This play has Robinson running a great route for defeating man coverage. The route is called Shake. This route allows Robinson to use his speed and agility to shake off the defender covering him. Once he makes his second move, rifle the pass to him for a 7-yard pickup.

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Key Offensive Plays

A — I-Form-Big
Any down/distance after run



• HB Lead Dive
With the new addition of running back Chester Taylor, running the ball inside behind left guard Steve Hutchinson is a rock-solid way to pick up yardage. Look to follow the fullback through the hole and use the new running moves to pick up the yardage inside.



B — Near-Normal
1st, 2nd and short yardage



• Texas
Online this play caught fire because the pass route run by the fullback was pretty effective against man coverage. The Vikings now have it in their playbook and it's just as effective this year as it was last year.



C — Weak I-Close
Any down/distance with pass



• TE Fade
This plays was new to 2005 and was used by several top players in the Madden Challenge. If you have an elite tight end and the defense calls Cover 0 coverage, you can expect to pick up a big gain.



Offensive Audible Packages

Passing Setup	Plays	Running Setup	Plays
Singleback-Empty 5 WR	Comebacks, Curl Flats, WR Screen, Zig Outs	**Strong I-Twin TE**	HB Dive, Counter Weak, Toss Strong, FB Dive
Far-Pro	Double Swing, TE Post, Slant N Go, TE Curl	**Strong Normal**	HB Draw, Counter Lead, HB Off Tackle, FB Dive

2005-06 Offensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
C	Matt Birk	93	87	54	95
C	Jason Whittle	77	88	47	75
FB	Tony Richardson	92	68	77	75
FB	Richard Owens	71	70	64	50
HB	Chester Taylor	86	74	88	78
HB	Mewelde Moore	77	58	88	72
HB	Ciatrick Fason	76	70	87	54
HB	Adimchinobe Echemandu	71	66	88	55
LG	Steve Hutchinson	98	97	54	90
LG	Chris Liwienski	83	90	48	85
LT	Bryant McKinnie	91	92	59	85
LT	Adam Goldberg	77	88	51	70
QB	Brad Johnson	86	52	46	92
QB	Mike McMahon	78	57	75	73
QB	Tarvaris Jackson	72	62	73	48

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
QB	J.T. O'Sullivan	67	60	52	62
RG	Artis Hicks	80	89	53	73
RG	Anthony Herrera	67	87	44	55
RT	Mike Rosenthal	84	90	54	83
RT	Marcus Johnson	79	89	51	71
TE	Jermaine Wiggins	89	72	73	85
TE	Jim Kleinsasser	87	78	73	75
TE	Richard Angulo	65	64	69	62
WR	Koren Robinson	85	55	93	75
WR	Troy Williamson	83	55	96	67
WR	Marcus Robinson	81	59	90	77
WR	Travis Taylor	79	56	90	73
WR	Billy McMullen	67	48	84	62
WR	Kelvin Kight	59	47	87	47

Coaching Profile

Brad Childress

- **Head Coaching Year:** 1st
- **Experience:** Served as the Eagles' offensive coordinator for the last four years

Childress helped turn Donovan McNabb into one of the top quarterbacks in the league. Over his last four seasons as offensive coordinator, the Eagles have been to the NFC championship three times and played in Super Bowl XXXIX.

Detailed Package Info

Minnesota Vikings

- **Formation:** I Form-Big
- **Package:** Heavy
- **Play:** HB Lead
- **Advantage:** This replaces a tight end with an extra offensive lineman to add punch to the running attack.

- **Formation:** Split Backs-3WR
- **Package:** Dual HB
- **Play:** Curls
- **Advantage:** Halfback Mewelde Moore has better hands than fullback Tony Richardson, making him a better threat out of the backfield as a pass catcher.

- **Formation:** Nickel-Strong
- **Package:** Strong Nickel
- **Play:** NB Blitz
- **Advantage:** Antoine Winfield lines up at nickel back and is sent in on a blitz. He can use his speed and tackling ability to force the quarterback into a bad situation.

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Franchise Mode Strategy

Board of Advisors

Fans are generally happy with our merchandise prices. Our concession prices are right in line with the rest of the league. We should leave parking prices where they are for now. We've got plenty of room under the cap to make an important hire.

Team Salary: 84.3M
Cap Room: 21.1M
Key Rival: Green Bay Packers
NFL Icons: None
Philosophy:
- Offense: Ball Control
- Defense: Force the Pass

Prestige: Low
Team Needs:
- Wide Receiver
- Linebacker

Highest Paid Players:
- Troy Williamson
- Steven Hutchinson

Up and Coming Players:
- Troy Williamson
- Kenechi Udeze

Team Trivia

Minnesota Vikings Facts

Answers are on the following page.

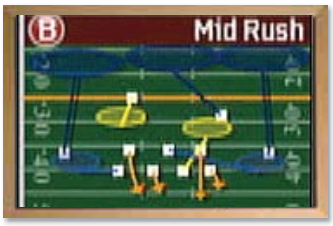
1 Who was the first coach in Minnesota Vikings' history?

2 What quarterback holds the Minnesota Vikings' single game record for passing yards?

Key Defensive Plays

A 4-3-Normal

1st & 2nd double on receiver

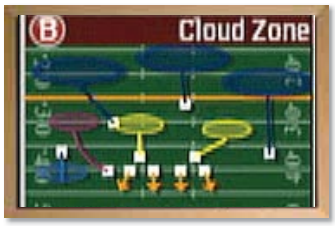


• Mid Rush
Right end Erasmus James and middle linebacker E.J. Henderson both drop into the flats. The strong safety and corners drop back in deep zones to take care of any deep threats in their areas.



B Nickel-Strong

1st & 2nd get the QB

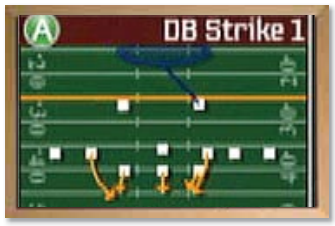


• Cloud Zone
This rotates the pass coverage over the split end's side of the field. If your opponent has an elite receiver at split end, this is a good defense to take him out of the passing game.



C Quarter-Normal

3rd and long yardage aggressive



• DB Strike 1
Both inside defensive backs are sent in on blitzes to pressure the quarterback. The strong safety plays the deep middle. The rest of the defense is in man coverage. If your opponent likes to pass from the Shotgun, this is a good defense.



Defensive Audible Packages

Blitz Package	Plays	Coverage Scheme	Plays
4-3-Under	Sam Shoot Fire 2, Slant Crash Left, Mike Fire, Crash Right	4-3-Over	Cover 2, Double X, Cover 4 Buzz, Man QB Spy
Nickel Normal	Engage Eight, ROLB Blitz, Under Smoke,	Quarter-3 Deep	2 Man Under, Cover 3, Under Man Zone, Prevent

2005-06 Defensive Roster List

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
CB	Antoine Winfield	92	58	91	92
CB	Fred Smoot	87	44	92	83
CB	Cedric Griffin	75	64	88	61
CB	Dustin Fox	72	54	93	55
CB	Devonte Edwards	61	42	93	46
DT	Pat Williams	94	96	52	92
DT	Kevin Williams	92	87	70	79
DT	C.J. Mosley	73	83	59	63
DT	Spencer Johnson	71	77	65	61
FS	Darren Sharper	96	60	88	92
FS	Will Hunter	65	54	85	52
LE	Kenechi Udeze	84	79	70	72
LE	Darrion Scott	72	75	68	45
LOLB	Ben Leber	81	73	78	77
LOLB	E.J. Henderson	81	80	72	74
MLB	Napoleon Harris	79	73	82	74
MLB	Rod Davis 64	73	72	52	
RE	Erasmus James	86	72	78	66
RE	Dequincy Scott	73	80	61	67
ROLB	Chad Greenway	82	70	85	63
ROLB	Dontarrious Thomas	79	71	85	65
SS	Tank Williams	86	67	88	75
SS	Willie Offord	74	60	85	64

Special Teams

Pos.	Player	Overall	Str.	Speed	Aware
K	Ryan Longwell	90	27	46	90
P	Chris Kluwe	80	35	62	64

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FRANCHISE HISTORY

Starting City: Minnesota, MS | **Starting Year:** 1959 | **League:** NFC

Franchise Beginnings

The Minnesota Vikings began in August of 1959, when five Minnesota business men (Bill Boyer, Bernie Ridder, Max Winter, Ole Haugsrud, and H.P. Skoglund) got a bid to create a franchise in the newly-formed American Football League. However, less than 6 months later, the men forfeited their membership in the AFL to sign up with the National Football League (NFL), becoming the league's 14th franchise. Their first game was played in 1961 when Hall of Famer Fran Tarkenton came off the bench to lead the Vikings in a win over the Chicago Bears.

Notable Moments

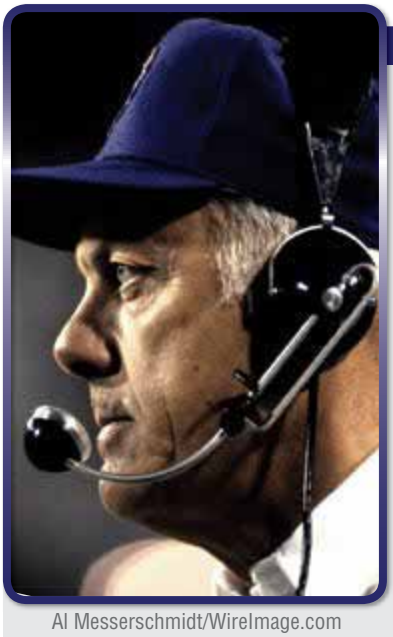
• Impressive Debut

Spectacular to say the least, the first outing of the Minnesota Vikings was a memorable one. At a time when the Bears were among the top in their division, they got stomped by the Viking expansion team in their NFL debut. Rookie QB Fran Tarkenton came off the bench and threw four touchdown passes, ran for one touchdown, and led the team to their first-ever victory 37-13.

• Wrong Way!

After Hall of Famer Carl Eller forced a 49ers fumble, Jim Marshall of the Vikings picked up the ball and began running for the end zone—the wrong end zone. The play ended when Marshall reached the end zone, scoring a safety, giving the Niners two points and the ball back.

Notable Figures



Al Messerschmidt/WireImage.com

Bud Grant ('67-'83, '85)

For 18 years Bud Grant was the head coach for the Vikings, and in that time he produced a .620 winning percentage and 168 wins, including 10 post season victories. His impressive resume puts him among the NFL elite as one of the greatest coaches of all time. In his second season as head coach, Grant led the Vikings on a spree of championships.

Carl Eller ('64-'78)

Carl Eller was selected in the first round of the draft by both the Vikings from the NFL, and the Bills of the AFL. Eller contributed heavily with precision pass rushing and punishing sacks, helping the Vikings to 10 NFL/NFC Central Division titles, an NFL Championship (before Super Bowls), three NFC Championships, and four trips to the Super Bowl.

Fran Tarkenton ('61-'66, '72-'78)

The first Viking to be inducted to the pro football Hall of Fame, he was a star from his professional debut, throwing four TD passes and rushing for a fifth to upset the Chicago Bears. For his 12 seasons with the Vikings, 1961-1966 and 1972-1978, he led the Vikings to three Super Bowls and six NFC Central Division titles. He still holds every Viking passing record.

Unique Franchise Tidbits

• From their conception, the Vikings have been one of the NFL's most consistent winning franchises. Only the **Cowboys** have had more playoff appearances in the past 25 years, and only four teams have played in more Super Bowls.

• Former wide receiver Cris Carter is only second to **Jerry Rice** in most career pass receptions and receiving touchdowns. He also holds all significant receiving records for the Vikings.

• The Vikings participated in the only NFL overtime game to **end with a safety**. The almost unbelievable game was made more incredible with all of the Vikings' points coming from a record-tying seven field goals. The Vikings won the game over the Rams 23-21.

Record Book

Offensive All-Time Leaders

Passing Completions:
F.Tarkenton ('61-'66, '72-'78) **2,635**

• Passing Yards:
F.Tarkenton ('61-'66, '72-'78) **33,098**

• Passing Touchdowns:
Fran Tarkenton ('61-'66, '72-'78) **239**

• Receptions:
Cris Carter ('90-'01) **1,004**

• Receiving Yards:
Cris Carter ('90-'01) **12,383**

• Receiving Touchdowns:
Cris Carter ('90-'01) **110**

• Rushing Yards:
Robert Smith ('93-'00) **6,818**

• Career Points Leader:
Fred Cox ('63-'77) **1,365**

Defensive All-Time Leaders

• Interceptions:
Paul Krause ('68-'79) **53**

Team Trivia

Answers

1 Norm Van Brocklin was the Vikings' coach from 1961 to 1965.

2 Tommy Kramer passed for 490 yards on 11-2-86 as a member of the Vikings.

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FRANCHISE MODE

Madden Franchise mode continues to evolve with even more new features. The big additions involve two of the main keys to an NFL franchise: player roles and the draft. Franchise mode puts you in the driver's seat as you take on the functions of owner, GM, coach, and player. It mirrors the real-life workings of the NFL front office, allowing you to make personnel and on-field adjustments as well as handle contracts, trades, and the salary cap.

In this section we take you through the ins and outs of owning and running an NFL team in ***Madden NFL 07***. We provide draft day advice (for those of you who like the Fantasy Draft), salary cap information, a rundown on free agency, and tips for making the most of your NFL budget.

STARTING A FRANCHISE

As you start your new franchise, you have to make some basic decisions. You determine the number of players in your league and determine whether you want to use a Fantasy Draft or just take control of an existing team. You then determine whether you want the Trade Deadline to be in effect. This restricts you from making trades partway through the season.

With the Fantasy Draft turned on, all of the current NFL players are placed in one big draft pool. This is one of the most fun ways to play Franchise mode. You draft 49 rounds of NFL players and then work to assemble your very own dream team. This gives you the ultimate flexibility to build a team that will fit your own unique play style. Do you want to run a shotgun spread attack? Draft a fast QB and load up on receivers. Do you want to take advantage of the new running features? Draft a feature back and run-blocking fullback to lead the way. You are in control!

Last, you select a coach and team to begin with. If you are doing a Fantasy Draft, this will not matter too much, because you will build your own team from scratch — choose your favorite one. You can even style your team according to their stadiums. If you want your games to be a track meet, pick a team such as the Colts, who play in a dome. If you turned off the Fantasy Draft, you will be working with the current personnel of the team you pick. This gives you a bunch of options. You can go with a current powerhouse and try to keep the dynasty going, or you can take a down-and-out franchise and build it into a winner.

Fantasy Draft

Before you commit to playing a Fantasy Draft league, you need to be aware that it's going to take some serious time. Fortunately, you can stop, save it, and come back to it later. We really recommend doing this so that you will be fresh throughout the process. To be fully prepared, you need to know the player breakdown you will need at the end of the day. The draft is 49 rounds long and works in a snaking order—that is, the team that picks first in one round picks 32nd in the subsequent round, then back to first, and so on. If you pick 16th in the first round, you'll be back in the same spot coming and going each time through.

You can pick any player who is available at your turn. You will, however, have to meet some roster requirements before you can begin play. Be sure to get the following (at minimum).

Offense	Defense	Special Teams
3 Quarterbacks	4 Defensive Ends	1 Kicker
3 Halfbacks	3 Defensive Tackles	1 Punter
1 Fullback	4 Outside Linebackers	
4 Wide Receivers	2 Middle Linebackers	
2 Tight Ends	4 Cornerbacks	
4 Offensive Tackles	2 Free Safeties	
4 Offensive Guards	2 Strong Safeties	
2 Centers		

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Note on **Fantasy Draft**

Remember that this isn't a traditional NFL setup in which there will be a large pool of talented free agents at the end of the day that you can use to fill gaps. All of the quality players will be taken in this draft. You have 49 rounds, so get depth at all of your positions.

If you are going to be simulating your games, try to get more Veteran balanced players. This will give you more success in simmed games. If you are going to be playing yourself, look for youth and speed. You can develop many of the other attributes of your players, but speed can't be coached up. A player's SPD rating will only budge a point or two during their career.

Get your franchise off to a quick start by drafting the best available player in the first couple of rounds. By round 5 a lot of the superstars will be gone. You can fill out your roster depth later.

Philosophy

Creating teams using your own **philosophy**

It can be daunting as you approach your first Fantasy Draft, so we have created a draft-priority list to help you draft an entire team with your first 25 picks. These are just guidelines and not hard-and-fast rules. If an amazing player who is a game changer is available, then grab him up even if it doesn't follow the list.

Round	Position	Notes
1	**Quarterback**	You can't win without scoring. The QB is the leader of the O and is critical with the new Vision & Precision passing features of *Madden NFL 07*. Look for a Quarterback with an accurate arm and high awareness rating. If you like to run, find a QB that also has decent speed.
2	**Defensive End**	A dominating presence here can put a ton of pressure on your opponent. Think speed!
3	**Offensive Tackle**	An elite left tackle will go a long way towards keeping our franchise quarterback protected.
4	**Cornerback**	A shut-down cover guy gives you all kinds of options with your defensive scheme.
5	**Halfback**	We need a versatile back who has speed and is able to catch the ball. He doesn't need to be a bruiser because we plan on spreading the defense out and allowing him to use his speed and shiftiness to get his yards.
6	**Wide Receiver**	We need a good receiver, but he doesn't need great speed, but he does need solid hands. We plan on throwing a lot quick passes and needs to be able catch the ball.
7	**Defensive Tackle**	This player will work in conjunction with the DE to get pressure up the middle and shut down the run.
8	**Defensive End**	Another quick, agile body on defense.
9	**Offensive Tackle**	Look at his speed and agility rating. These attributes will be needed to keep the left end off of the quarterback.
10	**Middle Linebacker**	The QB of the defense. Get someone with great awareness and speed here.
11	**Tight End**	Get a serviceable run-blocker here. Grab a pass catcher if one is still handy.
12	**Outside Linebacker**	Outside linebackers need to be fast, especially at ROLB. Draft the fastest one and don't worry about his other attributes.
13	**Center**	Look for a center with high awareness and pass blocking ability. These two attributes will go a long way in protecting the QB up the middle.
14	**Cornerback**	Your second corner has to be good in a league full of three-wide sets.
15	**Strong Safety**	This guy needs to be strong and a big hitter.
16	**Wide Receiver**	Look for a pure-speed guy here. Hands don't hurt, either.
17	**Defensive Tackle**	Go for size for the second interior D-lineman. Stuff the run.
18	**Outside Linebacker**	Speed and tackling ability are precious commodities here.
19	**Offensive Guard**	The second guard will probably have to be average at best.
20	**Free Safety**	Look for speed and good catch ratings here. He's the last line of defense on the deep ball.
21	**Fullback**	Get a sledgehammer of a blocker here. There's nothing fancy about the FB position.
22	**Halfback**	Backups are essential at all positions, but none moreso than HB.
23	**Offensive Guard**	You've got the QB and now you've got two guys to protect him.
24	**Kicker**	Most decent kickers perform about the same. Any middle of the road guy will do here.
25	**Punter**	Grab a punter with power.

There — 25 picks later you're on your way to a solid lineup! Use the draft-breakdown screen to assess your needs as you move into the later rounds of the draft. Keep an eye on what positions are getting run off the board. You might have to make a position pick earlier than you want to if other teams are making a run on that position.

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Mock Draft

Giving an example through a **Mock Draft**

To give you an idea of how our priority list from the previous page works out, here's how our roster turned out, round by round.

Round	Player	Position	Overall	Age
1	Dwight Freeney	DE	98	26
2	Eli Manning	QB	88	25
3	Bryant McKinnie	LT	91	26
4	Reggie Bush	HB	87	21
5	Antonio Gates	TE	98	26
6	Vince Wilfork	DT	89	24
7	Andre Johnson	WR	89	25
8	Kyle Vanden Bosch	DE	88	27
9	Lofa Tatupu	MLB	88	23
10	Olin Kreutz	C	98	29
11	Ike Taylor	CB	85	26
12	Tank Williams	SS	86	26
13	Asante Samuel	CB	85	25
14	Kevin Curtis	WR	85	28
15	Leroy Hill	OLB	84	23
16	Alex Barron	RT	84	23
17	Alan Ricard	FB	87	29
18	Stephen Davis	HB	85	32
19	Mike Patterson	DT	85	22
20	Claude Terrell	LG	82	24
21	Jacob Bell	LG	81	25
22	E.J. Henderson	OLB	81	26
23	Kevin Kaesviharn	FS	79	29
24	Vince Young	QB	82	23
25	Bethel Johnson	WR	75	27
26	Manny Lawson	OLB	79	22
27	Tye Hill	CB	80	24
28	Joseph Addai	HB	80	23
29	Robbie Gould	K	75	23
30	Barrett Ruud	MLB	79	23
31	Patrick Crayton	WR	76	27
32	Bernard Pollard	SS	78	21
33	Jason Campbell	QB	77	24
34	Kyle Turley	TE	75	30
35	Aaron Gibson	RT	72	28
36	Leo Araguz	P	76	36
37	Ko Simpson	FS	76	22
38	Devin Hester	CB	73	23
39	Jonathan Welsh	DE	72	24
40	David Stewart	RT	74	23
41	Damane Duckett	DT	74	25
42	Richie Incognito	RG	73	23
43	Jason Brown	C	71	23
44	Jeb Huckeba	DE	71	24
45	Alex Lewis	OLB	71	25
46	Willie Colon	LG	69	23
47	Allen Rossum	CB	70	30
48	Joseph Jefferson	SS	71	26
49	Jordan Beck	MLB	71	23

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Draft Highlights

We picked up the game's most dominant defensive end in Dwight Freeney. We like to have a ton of speed on the edge to really get after the QB.



A Summary of Our Draft Picks

We picked up some really nice weapons on offense as well. Reggie Bush gives us a versatile back to combine with Antonio Gates and Andre Johnson. With Gates at TE and Johnson at WR, we can really overload and stretch the defense. Eli Manning is a solid QB who can deliver the ball on time.

This team is young and fast. We have only four players 30 or older (one is the punter). We went after a lot of young players with low salaries and high potential. Any time we had a choice of several players with the same overall rating, we went for younger and cheaper.
The screen above also gives you a best Position Choice. You will take your player through all of the games at this position, so be sure to pick something you like. We wouldn't recommend punter as a first option here.

I really like our potential on offense. All of our receivers have great speed and we have a nice one-two punch at running back. Bush will carry the load with Stephen Davis to provide that short yardage pound. Over the last two years, TEs have become a major part of many players' *Madden NFL Football* offense. We got one of the best in the draft.

Our defense is wicked strong across the front line. Wilfork can stuff the run and Freeney will bring the heat off the edge. Our linebackers are young, fast, and hungry. All of them possess excellent speed. Our secondary is solid. Both corners have good skills, Tank Williams is a hitter, and our FS has great awareness despite a 79 overall.

Our backup corners have insane 96+ speed and will be blitzed often. I can visualize running a nice Quarters defense or maybe a Dime 3-2-6 as often as I can to get these guys on the field.

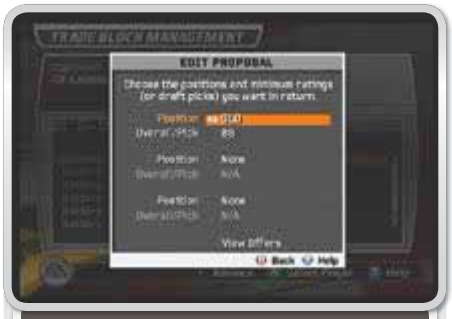
We used the latter rounds to build our depth. Keep an eye on your late round draft picks. You need to sign inexpensive players to fill out your roster. Keep as much cap room free as possible because you'll need it next year.

In the final equation, we came in 27.4 million under the cap, giving the team flexibility to sign future draft choices and free agents as they come available.



Player Management

The Player Management screen under Roster options lets you deal with your team player by player. You can release players, trade them, put them on the trading block, and check on career statistics. Here we assign Dwight Freeney to be our Team Captain as well as check out his roles on the team (more on this later).



Place on Trade Block

The trading block allows you to take a player on your team and see what others are willing to give you for him. This is a great way to passively trade players. Throw a guy up on the block and display what you are willing to take in return. You can choose by position/rating or draft pick.

We'll put Lindsay up for a second round draft pick. It's a shot in the dark, but you never know.



Training Camp

Before each season, you have the option of running drills to work on the skills of different players. The type of drill you run affects players differently. You run through the mini-camp drills to gain new attribute points. After you complete a level successfully, you can try the next level for more points. Be careful, if you fail in a drill, you won't get any improvement points. Practice the mini-camp drills outside of Franchise mode before you put your skills to the test.

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GAMEPLAN

Once you get past training camps, it's time to get ready for the gridiron. Gameplan mode is back again to help you prep for your next opponent. In Weekly Gameplan mode, you can take your squad on the field and practice against your opponent's specific tendencies. You have different offensive and defensive plays to work with each week. By performing well in Gameplan mode, you see on-the-field benefit when running against those schemes.

Our favorite part about Gameplan mode is the Positional Breakdown screen. This gives you a preview of the other team's strengths and weaknesses. Use this screen to get an idea of what the other team will throw your way. This is especially useful if you started the season with a Fantasy Draft. With star players spread all over the NFL, you can use this feature to figure out what you will be facing come game time.

After you get some games under your belt, be sure to check out the Statistical Breakdowns. This gives you an idea of what is best working for you in both the run and passing games.



FRANCHISE MODE

Storyline Central

Storyline Central provides a different type of interface for determining what is happening on our team. Email and newspaper articles keep you up to speed on pending free agents, team morale, and players who have that hot hand. You can check out both the national and local beat papers for news.

The local paper provides menus where you can view Depth Charts, Positional Battles, Stadium Info, Rosters, and Gameplans. This is a nice way to navigate the menus as well as read some pretty cool articles about your team. It helps make Franchise mode more immersive.

Be sure to look out for little clues that affect your franchise. We see that one of our starting corners is going to be a free agent at the end of the year. If you can re-sign him early, you might be able to avoid a bidding war. Finally, the Tony Bruno show provides your weekly entertainment, with news from all around the league.



TOTAL CONTROL SIMULATION

Once you get into the season, you have several different options for processing your game. One of the ways that makes its return from last year is Total Control Simulation. With Total Control Simulation you can call the plays and see the result in text format. This allows you to be the coach and quickly work through games that you don't want to play in live action. The really nice part about this mode is that you can jump into the game any time you want. The option also exists to have the CPU fully simulate that game without you having to call plays or be in control of your team. This is the standard simulation mode from years past.



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SPAWN GAMES

Madden NFL 07 comes fully equipped with support for spawned Franchise games. You can export your game outside of Franchise mode and play it on your PSP. Once you finish the game, you can merge the results right back into your franchise.

Into the Season

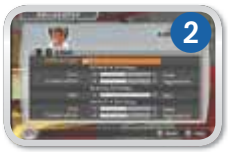
Time to head **Into the Season**

After training camp and the preseason, you can check out your team's player progression. (1) It's a good idea to play some of your preseason games and really focus on a couple of players. By focusing reps on the younger players, you can rapidly increase their abilities. Veteran players will not see as much of an improvement.

Once the season begins, you can play through your full 16-game season. (2) If you are not going to play the games yourself, adjust your coaching philosophy to better fit your players. You don't have a ton of options here, but you can adjust your run/pass ratio and defensive aggressiveness. Every little tweak helps!

For purposes of this guide, we simmed the regular season all the way through. Our team came out with a mediocre 8-8 season, but the fans were happy with our performance and really got behind the team. With a couple of tweaks, we could be ready to make a charge at the playoffs. (3)







Offensive Highlights

Player	Season Stats
E. Manning	2,494 yards passing, 14 TDs, 17 INT
R. Bush	1,169 yards rushing, 9 TDs
A. Johnson	60 receptions, 714 yards
A. Gates	57 receptions, 500 yards

Defensive Highlights

Player	Season Stats
D. Freeney	10 sacks
K. Vanden Bosch	9 sacks
L. Tatupu	143 tackles, 3 INTs

Special Teams

R. Bush	24.2 kick return avg, 1 TD
R. Bush	13.0 punt return avg, 1 TD

Manning did not perform as well as we would have hoped. Part of this can be attributed to the blocking on our offensive line. While Bush broke the 1,000-yard mark, he averaged less than four yards per carry. Our defense was pretty solid and with a lot of youth at linebacker, we expect to see a more dominant performance in year two.

Owner's Box

With *Madden NFL 07* you get to be the player, coach, GM, and owner. This is a completely different side to the game and opens up a lot of variety for game play. You can play the game from the perspective of making as much money as possible as the owner. Put a good enough team on the field to fill the seats, but keep your salaries down, and you will bank plenty of cash. The Owner's Box lets you take a peek inside what it is like to be the owner of an NFL franchise where you control every aspect of your team, from concession prices to stadium upgrades.



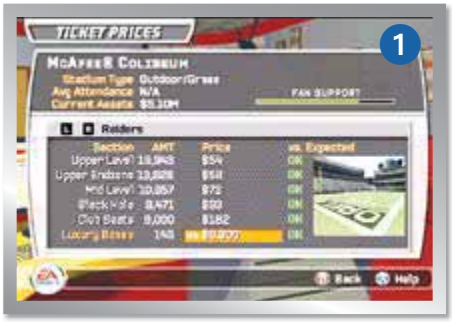
The Owner's Box view gives you a quick look at your franchise's health, including Fan Support, Cash Assets, Attendance, and Record. You can consult with your Board of Advisors for suggestions and reading on your fans feelings. The advisors aren't always right, so take their advice with a grain of salt. Don't forget that advertising can help fill the seats, but there is a cost trade off. Try to keep things in balance as much as possible.

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Owner's Box Continued...

The Set Prices screen allows you to do just that. You can set prices for individual concession stand items, tickets, parking, and merchandise. (1) Once you can afford a solid advertising budget, you can fill the seats up with a lesser team. Don't go overboard and outprice your customers. They let you know you have gone too far by not attending games as often.



One of the more valuable screens in the Owner's Box is the Franchise/Team info page. This page gives you a ton of useful facts about your franchise, as well as a quick look at how your franchise stacks up with the rest of the league. Our franchise currently is in a great cash position. We have the 23rd lowest Team Salary in the league and are $27.4 million under the cap. We'll have plenty of money to re-sign players and pay our top draft choices.

The other useful feature on this page is the Positional Ratings. Now you can get a good idea of where your talent stacks up compared to the rest of the league. As you can see, we are close to the league average at most positions with our strengths at WR/TE and on the D-Line. We are lagging behind in the kicking game, but we can address that at free agency or the draft.



Finally, don't forget to peek at your team's Balance Sheet from time to time. (2) As an owner, one of your jobs is to make money. Winning is important, but so is a healthy bottom line. Cash in the bank means upgrades to your stadium that can attract more fans and give them a better experience. More cash means more advertising so you can fill up the stands.

ADVANCE TO OFF-SEASON

Off-Season Schedule

You have a ton of things that need to be done in the off-season to get ready for the next go around. You can let the CPU sign your coaching staff if there are any holes to fill. You have ultimate control of the team in the long run, so there's no need to waste time here unless you really like to tightly manage your team. We are total control junkies so we manage the hiring of a new defensive coordinator.

Retiring Players

Our team is very young and we do not have any retirees the first year. As our franchise progresses, we might see some of our talent hang up their cleats. Because we like to stay lean and mean, we don't foresee too many players hanging on with us past their prime.

Restricted Free Agents

With Restricted Free Agents, we have the right to first match any offers from other teams to our players. If it's a guy you want to hang on to, be sure to match the offer sheet and get him back under contract. We have a couple of young players that we don't want to lose.

Re-Sign Players

This part gets pretty tricky. You have to pony up the dough or watch your players walk. Any players you don't sign will hit free agency. You can at times sign them back, but it gets pretty expensive. You have to be really careful here to not get in over your head. This part of the off-season is very tricky when you do a Fantasy Draft. You'll find that some of your top picks only had a couple of years left on their contract, if any at all. Look at restructuring the deals of some of your key players who still have time left on their contracts. It's usually much more cost effective to get them earlier rather than later. Remember, you have the draft coming, so you don't need to sign guys low on the depth chart for a lot of money. Sign your older players to short-term contracts in case their ratings fall off dramatically as they age.

Off-Season Cut Logic

EA SPORTS has added intelligent logic to determine when to cut players loose. You may take a cap hit but save money in the long run by dropping over-priced talent. The CPU makes a recommendation for you. In our case, they recommended that we drop Stephen Davis. We decide to keep him around to mentor our young backs and increase their awareness.

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Pre-Draft Scouting

As you prepare for the draft, it is very important to scout the incoming talent as much as possible. EA SPORTS has completely redone the scouting system this year to make it much more interactive and fun.

You begin the scouting process with the College All Star Game. (1) This is your opportunity to take the field with the incoming draft class and try them on for size. Go into battle with either the East or West All Stars so you can see the talent on the field for yourself. This is a great way to get a feel for the ability of the next NFL rookie class.

Mel Kiper's Big Board has the most basic information about the players. (2) It has the projected round in which the player might be taken, along with height, weight, college, position, and miscellaneous stats. Analyze your roster to assess your team needs. Sometimes you need an immediate starter, but often you're drafting for depth and future stars.

Next comes the opportunity to work out specific players. You get to put 8 players through their paces. This represents a major change from the previous version of *Madden NFL Football*. You actually take control of the player and run him through position-specific drills. For example, if you want to work out a linebacker, you take him through the LB Chase & Tackle drill. The higher you score, the more you find out about the player.

We ran Meir McGrady through this drill and discovered he had Amazing tackling ability. He ended up being one of our top draft picks.

You only get 8 workouts, so use them wisely. You aren't going to nab a Top-5 player if you don't have a high draft pick. Don't waste time scouting them. (3)

A good strategy is to pick the top three positions you need to upgrade, and scout three guys at each spot. With this info in front of you, you can be fairly confident in your choices. Be sure you think about what order you will draft these players in. If you know you are going to pick a WR in the first round, don't bother to scout a HB that is a projected Top-5 or Top-10 pick. Look for second rounders to scout, because the other guys will be gone when it comes your turn again.







What to Look For

Keep your eyes peeled...

The table below is an easy guide to what ratings are most important by position. Having a wide receiver with great awareness might be nice, but we'll take a speed guy with hands. Defensive ends need to be quick off the edge, but they don't need a great jump rating. To avoid confusion in your drafting, refer to the rating priority for each position. One note: speed is an added factor to consider at every position except kicker and punter.

Position	Rating Priority
QB	THP, THA, AWR
HB	SPD, BTK, ACC
FB	RBK, PBK
WR	SPD, CTH
TE	CTH, RBK
T	PBK, RBK
G	RBK, PBK
C	RBK, PBK
DE	SPD, TAC
DT	STR, TAK
OLB	SPD, AWR
MLB	TAK, AWR
CB	SPD, JMP
FS	AWR, TAK
SS	TAK, AWR
K/P	KAC, KPW

As you proceed through the draft, you are put on the clock to make your picks. Take your time, but don't pull a Minnesota Vikings and miss out on your pick.

At the end of the draft, Mel Kiper will grade you.



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Signing Free Agents

Finding the right one

Once you complete your draft, you have to take out your wallet and pay for your new talent. You will have to pay through the nose to sign those first rounders, so be careful with the lower-tier picks. If you have cash left under the cap, you can play in the free agent market. Look for high-impact players who can come in and make a huge difference. Otherwise, develop your younger talent and save your money. You can view each player's interest level in your team. Money isn't the only concern here. Team prestige and stadium quality also influence their decision. We use free agency to pick up a much-needed kicker. It took a fair amount of cash to sign our picks and current players, so there isn't too much cash left on our team to dabble in the market.



Depth Charts

Adjust your roster so that the best players are starting at each position. In some cases you might want to start a slightly lower-rated rookie or a young guy to let him develop. If you let the CPU auto-reorder, you'll probably miss the change to maximize your roster.

Player Roles — NEW FEATURE!

We are really excited about this new feature. One of the things about the NFL that often flies under the radar is how certain players can really elevate the games of the other members on their team. Player roles bring realism to the game by giving individual players the ability to increase their level of play and that of their teammates. Certain roles require that different circumstances be met. We've included a few of the new roles below to give you a taste of what you will find in the game.

- **Defensive Enforcer:** This role will be removed if this player's OVR drops below 80, his TAK drops below 85, and he records three Big Hits or fewer in a season.
- **Defensive Playmaker:** This role will be removed if this player goes an entire season without a FF or INT. This role increases the player's value seven percent.
- **Feature Back:** This player will lose his role if his OVR drops below 84, his franchise signs another Feature Back, or his franchise drafts a HB in the first round.
- **Franchise Quarterback:** This player will lose his role if his OVR drops below 85, his franchise signs another Franchise QB, or his franchise drafts a QB in the first round.
- **Go to Guy:** This player will lose his role if he has five or more drops in a season or fewer than 20 first downs.
- **NFL Icon:** While this player has this role, every starter on his side of the ball receives AWR +1.
- **Team Mentor:** This role will be removed if his OVT is 85 or less and his MOR is 25 or less at the end of the season. This role raises the awareness of other players at his position.

Each of these roles brings a ratings boost to certain players on the field. Feature Backs improve the blocking ability of their offensive line, NFL Icons increase the AWR of other players at their position. Go to Guys get a ratings boost on third down and in the fourth quarter. You can also have negative roles such as Underachiever and Injury Prone. These roles cause ratings decreases. The new Player Roles take the value of stars beyond just their individual ratings and allow them to influence other players on the team.







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Manage Your Money!

It is very easy to run into a cash crunch when playing with a Fantasy Draft. It takes some discipline to not overload your roster with a dream team. You need to decide whether you want to mortgage the future for a shot at the title today or build slowly for longevity.

Here are some helpful tips for maximizing cash in your franchise. Keep in mind that your balance sheet is directly related to player and coach salaries. If those are in line, you should have no problem keeping your business running smoothly.

- Be smart about signing players. The longer the contract, the better it is for your cap. Raise the signing bonus and sign long-term deals, and eventually you'll have a cap friendly roster. On the other hand, avoid long-term deals with older players. Their skill will deteriorate, but you'll be stuck with a big cap hit.
- If you reach the playoffs, raise ticket prices on tickets, food, merchandise, and parking. Go above the recommended limits. Fans will stretch the dollars to see the home team host a playoff game.
- Don't always rely on your advisors. Even if your advisors caution that fans are whining about ticket prices, keep them high until you notice a significant drop in attendance. Once that happens, fire off a quick fan appreciation day to move things along again. Remember, winning puts fans in the seats more than anything else.
- If you have quality depth, trade away big contracts for future draft picks. You'll stay young, and more importantly, you'll remain within your budget.
- Be on the lookout for additional sources of revenue. Get good enough and you'll get a local media contract. This can be used to buy more advertising and put more fans in the seats.

Final Notes

A few last words of wisdom

Season 1 wasn't a complete success, but we laid a solid foundation for a run at the championship in season 2. We traded away Eli Manning for T.O., which dropped our salaries, got us a second round pick, and gave us a chance to put Vince Young at the helm (he was having some morale issues being on the bench).

Our offense is ridiculous with young and veteran talent. T.O., Andre Johnson, and Antonio Gates are a powerful trio that will drive defenses crazy. Couple that with Reggie Bush coming out of the backfield and the ball is going to be flying all over the field.

Our defense is solid as well. We have a strong defensive line, young linebackers with plenty of speed, and a veteran secondary. We aren't going to rely on sim mode this time. We are going to play every game and make sure we get that ring.

Our cap is pretty tight, but we have our core players locked up a few more years. We gotta win now with this power-packed team!

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NFL SUPERSTAR MODE

Last year's Superstar mode was a start, but it didn't quite create the immersive style of game play we would have wanted from that mode. Well, EA raised the bar this year, creating a Superstar mode that puts you right in the middle of the action. In NFL Superstar mode, you take control of a football player just exiting college and diving into the NFL draft. You have total control over just about every aspect of your player: agents, contracts, on the field control, workouts, and even movie roles. The goal of the game this year is quite simple. Build a player worthy of the NFL Hall of Fame, and take him to the pinnacle of the sport.



DNA

Step one in the creation of your NFL Superstar is to select his DNA. It would really be something if we had this option in real life, wouldn't it? Both the mom and dad are rated in three basis areas: career, hobbies, and IQ.

This is where it really gets good. If you don't like the first matchup you get, try it again. If you really want to be a dominant player right out of the box, look for a mention of the father being a Hall of Famer. Take him for your DNA donor and you are sure to start out with pretty good stats.

The screen above also gives you a best Position Choice. You will take your player through all of the games at this position, so be sure to pick something you like. We wouldn't recommend punter as a first option here.

In our case, we took a Hall of Fame MLB married to a corporate executive. We should have a great mix of both brains and brawn here.



Registration and Build

Step two is to get registered for the draft and put in your personal information. (1) You can pick your name, height, weight, handedness, and college. Try to set your height and weight at a reasonable level for your position. We wanted to be a prototype linebacker, so we went 6'1" 240 lbs. If you want to get creative, you can play around with having an oversized player at your position. Maybe a 275-lbs halfback to run over the opposition à la Jerome Bettis is more up your alley.

After registration, it's time to customize your player's appearance. (2) You can be flabby, ripped, or some combo in between. You can have a big butt, or be as flat as a board in the back. The choice is up to you. Bear in mind that certain combinations give you a better appearance rating. This helps you get better endorsement and movie offers.





Getting Started

Once you have birthed your new Superstar, you are transported to the My Apartment screen. (1) As an unsigned rookie, we don't have much cash flow to purchase a primo pad, but we can taste the money and will upgrade our digs asap. This screen serves as your Superstar menu system allowing you to do everything you need to do as an NFL player.

My Schedule presents you with a calendar view of the upcoming events. (2) Things such as training camp, games, movie offers, and interviews are all laid out for you here. You can simulate (sim) ahead if you want or take things day by day.

Your Cell Phone contains messages from people involved in your life. Your mentor gives you advice to help you know how to manage yourself as a professional. Your coach sends you information about your play and will even admonish you if you get crazy with the media.



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Your Cell Phone contains messages from your mentor, agents, and others involved in your life. Your mentor provides you with timely advice to help you know how to manage yourself as a professional. Your coach sends you information about your play and will even admonish you if you get crazy with the media.

My Web is your information central. Here you can find out how your career is progressing, view stats of every game, and check out potential endorsement deals. If you can't find it anywhere else, you can usually find it here. Rosters, depth charts and your Hall of Fame resume can all be checked here.

City Map allows you to go to different places in your town. You can swing by your agent's office to set up a press conference, fix your wig, or hit the tattoo parlor for some fresh ink. As your player improves, you can hire an agent who gives you access to the Performance Institute. More on this later.

The Mirror allows you to adjust your appearance. (3) Add a visor to your helmet, tape up your ankles, and get some elbow pads here. You can change your equipment for both artificial and grass turf games for the ultimate in realism.



Finally, the Rookie Handbook allows you to save your Superstar as well as change Gameplay and System settings. You can set audibles and other coaching options from this screen at the same time.



Road to the Draft

Now that you know your way around your pad, it's time to get ready for the draft. Step one is to hire an agent to represent you in contract negotiations. (1) When you visit the Agent Directory, you can see who is interested in you, as well as view their ratings in several different categories. If you are all about the bucks, look for a top negotiator. You have only a couple of choices in the beginning. Once you become an NFL stud, you'll have agents knocking at your door. After a couple of years, look for an agent who can get you into the Performance Institute.

There are three parts to the pre-draft process. You take an IQ test that helps establish your player's mental capacity. (2) This is a combination of intelligence and attitude test that will help NFL teams gauge your personality. You have to answer questions within the time period. Do your best, but keep an eye on the clock.



The interview part of the pre-draft process allows you to further establish your player's character. (3) You can toe the company line, or become a boastful egomaniac. Being an outspoken media delight can be fun, but has its drawbacks as well. Don't become a distraction to your team or your ability to lead will suffer. You won't be a first round pick no matter how good your DNA is. You'll usually fall somewhere in the second to third round, but you might go even lower.





The final aspect of the pre-draft process involves individual workouts and the combine. (5) You get to perform position specific drills as well as the all-important 40-yard dash. The drills can be kind of tricky because you have to do them from the new third-person perspective. Perform well in the drills and you can improve your attributes before the draft.



You don't have any control over who drafts you or your first contract, so sit back and enjoy the ride. We get picked up at the top of the third round by the Oakland Raiders. We hope to bring some strength to the their faltering defense.

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Advancing Your Career

Once you get started, go to My Web and check out your Home Page. This gives you a scouting report on your player. From the web site you can also see your Franchise Resume, Career Stats, and Game Stats. Find out about your agent, view your personas, and check out your other awards.

Personas is a cool feature that tracks key moments of your career. Your web guy puts up paintings as you achieve various goals in your career. You'll start out with the Draft Pick persona, but you can pick up other things as time goes along.

Now that you have reached the big time, it's time to play your games. You have three options here: play every game plus work out in every practice, sim them all, or go for a combination. If you really want to see your player take off quickly, play as many games with him as you can.

Remember, in Game mode you play from the third person. The coach calls the plays and you perform them on the field. Unless you are the team QB, you won't be able to make adjustments on the line. (1) In the beginning, your job is just to run the play. You can slightly adjust your camera angle, and use the right stick to look at the field. You will see your assignment drawn on the field for that play. (2)



Gameplan

Each week you have the opportunity to take reps in both practice and gameplan modes. You are graded in your practices, and positive plays can result in ratings boosts for your player. Make sure you take enough snaps to get graded and earn those extra points.



Off-Season

During the offseason you're presented with other opportunities, such as being invited to star in a movie. You get a minute or so to learn your lines, then it's crunch time. You'll see the script and have to choose your line from a set of choices. The better you do, the better your reviews. If you stink it up, you'll earn the Hack persona. Oh, well. Not too many guys are movie stars and Hall of Famers.

Our first year brought us a bit of fame and fortune so we moved up to the My Loft screen. This works just like My Apartment, but looks nicer. Our ratings improved and now we are a 95 overall LB and a key contributor on defense. We won the AFC Defensive Rookie of the Year award and recorded 143 tackles (second in the AFC).







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Roles

This gives EA Sports added a major new feature to Superstar mode this year in the form of roles. Different roles allow you to elevate your play and even that of others on your team.

For example, the Run Stopper role gives you increased awareness and tackle bonuses. It also decreases the ability of the O-Line and RB ball carrying. Your player can have more than one role, but you can activate only one at a time during the games.





Show Me the Money

After Season 2, our contract was up and it was time to meet with our agent. (1) We have the option of re-signing or trying our hand at free agency. The big cash money calls our name, so we drop the Raiders like a hot potato and head for greener pastures. Our agent then presents us with a number of deals to choose from. Tampa Bay ponies up the five-year $29.88 million contract so we can live the high life.

This move presents us with the Millionaire persona and hooks us up with our first Mansion. We dump our agent for a guy with a little more pull. We want better endorsements and access to the Performance Institute.

Before game day each week, you can visit the Performance Institute from the City Map and work on your skills. (2) You can pick one of the Minigame drills for your position and work out. Success gives you a performance boost for your next game. These drills are tough, but they can mean valuable increases for your player.



At this point we have an established NFL career. We put in a solid 12 years at the NFL level, accumulating a ton of awards along the way. We make the Madden Cover, win the Horse Trailer Award, go to several Pro Bowls, and take Linebacker of the Year honors. While we go to the playoffs multiple times, we are never able to lead our team to the Super Bowl. This is the only knock on an otherwise stellar career.

As we grow in experience, new roles are added to our player. We get the Mentor, Enforcer, and QB Nightmare roles. (3) Each has its own unique benefits, turning us into a force on defense and giving us huge influence with our team.



As we near retirement, it's time to take a look at the Hall of Fame Board to see how the fans view our career. We are one of the top active MLBs, and the fans think we will be a lock for the Hall of Fame. We visit our agent and decide to announce our retirement. We are rewarded with a trip to the Hall of Fame and notification that we are one of the Greatest of All Time. (4)



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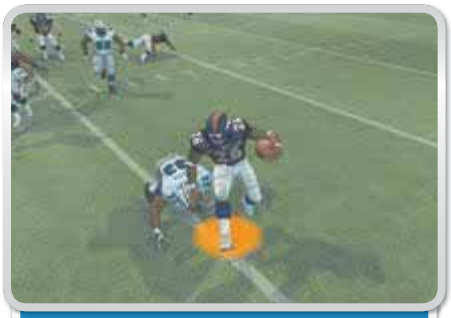
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MADDEN NFL ONLINE

Internet play has exploded with new competitors coming in every day to test their game against the best online has to offer. Against human opposition, plays don't fall into the same predictable patterns that you face against the CPU. If you can't stop a play, a human opponent will run it again and again. You'll encounter all manner of play styles. Some players blitz you every down and go deep on just about every play. Others run a variable gameplan and wait for you to make mistakes that they can exploit for points.

ONLINE OFFENSIVE STYLES

During the course of online play, you typically run into one of these standard styles of play.



Ground Pounder / Clock Baller

The Ground Pounder/Clock Baller is one of the more frustrating gamers to go up against. When playing a Madden Challenge with two-minute quarters, this is a potent strategy. Online, however, it can be torture to go up against. Most players who get frustrated with their passing attack focus on running the ball as a way to keep the clock moving and keep the score from getting out of hand. Now just because a player runs this scheme, doesn't mean that he or she can not attack you through the air.

It's frustrating to compete against the player who runs the ball to drain the clock. All they are worried about is scoring and using up enough clock so that you have to rush your offense against time. When trying to defend against the Ground Pounder, keep good pursuit angles. The majority of Ground Pounders watch for the defense to over pursue and then take advantage of cut back lanes or out-of-position players. The Clock Baller is a different monster. Skillwise they are easier to deal with than the Ground Pounder, but they are more frustrating. Try to get out with an early lead and force them to play catch up. The other option is to slow things down as well. As long as you don't mess up your own rhythm doing this, it might push your opponent out of his gameplan.



Aerial Assault

Moving the ball through the air is still the tactic of choice for most players. There are several different ways to approach this game style. There are the dink and dunkers who run a West Coast–style offense. There are balanced players who run short, medium, and deep routes to move the ball. Finally there are the lobbers. These guys like to roll out, force you to honor the run, and then heave it deep to their receiver. They take control of the intended receiver and use their stick skills to make the catch.

If you have played *Madden* online the last few years, you know what we are talking about. West Coast Offense is pretty effective, but requires that the player be able to read coverages and know his team's offensive pass plays. These players can be dangerous because they use all their receivers and it's hard to figure out where they will go with the ball. If you are playing against this type of player, you are better off not blitzing. Use your defenders to fill the short passing lanes by dropping defensive linemen or by bringing up safeties. These players are hard to sack, because the ball is not in the quarterback's hand very long. If for some reason the passing lanes are blocked, these players will struggle and hold on to the ball longer trying to buy time in the pocket. This is when you will get coverage sacks.

The second type player is one who throws short, medium, and deep. These are the hardest players to defend against, as balanced players always are. They use all their receivers just like dink and dunkers, but are not afraid to go up top every once in a while. Use all the tools at your disposal to try to throw them off of their game. Disguise your defenses by using the defensive playmaker, coverage audibles, manually moving defenders, and blitzing at the right time.

Most deep lobbers never develop the skills to read pass coverages. Their main source of offense is to drop back and lob it deep in hopes that their top receiver will pull it down. Over the years this has been one of the most abused styles of offense. Work on your stick skills so that you can manually defend. Go into practice mode and put yourself on defense. Practice against the Hail Mary play and work on manual defense.

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Mobile Quarterback Attack

One of the most difficult players to deal with in *Madden* is the player who has a quarterback that can run and pass. We have seen this year in and year out with the domination of Michael Vick on the *Madden* video gridiron. This player is going to try to break contain, get out to the edge, and force you to make a choice. Do you pull off coverage and defend the run, or do you stay back to guard the pass? Big Gene has developed this into a science. In the right hands this style is almost impossible to stop. Keep an eye on the Titans this year as many players will take advantage of Vince Young's wheels to make plays.

One of the best ways to defend against this type of player is by using Man/Zone coverages. Coverages with man on one side and zone on the other will give the offensive player a false read to whatever side they roll and make things harder for reverse field plays. Also try to blitz a mobile quarterback, forcing him to the short side of the field. If the offense lines up on the right side of the hash, then blitz from the left. The final way to handle this type of player is to constantly bring pressure from the right, forcing the QB left. This takes into consideration that most people are right handed and are not comfortable looking left first. You will be surprised how many sacks you can get just by attacking a right-handed player from that side.



Compression Offense

This scheme has really taken *Madden* by storm the last couple of years. It's been run on some level in the NFL for years, but with the bunch and tight sets it is making an appearance in Madden.

The main concept here is to group or bunch players in one area on offense to cause mismatches. This player is going to overload one side of the ball and force the defense to adjust. With the majority of the offense loaded on one side, with a single backside threat, they can make easy reads of the defense. The scheme also lends itself to crossing routes where receivers rub off their defenders.

A good compression scheme is very difficult to defend. You really have two options to try to slow them down. First, bring pressure. A lot of guys like to send out five receivers, so throw heat at them to force mistakes. Second, mix up your coverages. Use Man Lock On/Off and your Zone Lock On/Off to confuse them as much as possible. Be opportunistic and take advantage of every chance you get to get the ball back.

No-Huddle Offense

We mentioned before how frustrating it is to deal with the Clock Baller. Well, meet his evil twin Mr. No Huddle. There are two sides to this player. One side will no huddle on you from the first snap. This player normally has all of his audibles set and will attack you with everything preset. He will even try to no huddle off of incomplete passes. He is going to try to hit you again and again to get the quick score.

The second side of this player is the one who no huddles once he sees that he has your defense in a bad defense or out of position. If you do not stop this player right away, then the frustration can be endless. There is nothing like being caught in the wrong defense and the offense just keeps hitting you with the same play, over and over and over again.

What do you do if you have used all of your time outs? It doesn't even have to get that far. When you feel that your defense is out of position and you don't want to use a time out, go offside while the team is coming to the line. This lets you pick a new play and force the offense to go to the Play Selection screen. Sometimes a time out is worth more than five yards, especially when it is early in the drive.

You also have playmaker routes available for quick adjustments on the fly. As a last resort, manually take control of a defender and put him in the weak spot to force your opponent to make a new play call.

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ONLINE DEFENSIVE STYLES

Defensively, you typically encounter three different types of player online.



Aggressive

Players who run attacking-style defenses are aggressive. They like to live on the edge and dictate the tempo of the game. They are willing to give up the big play on offense in return for a big play on defense. The are going to blitz, blitz, and blitz some more. Expect to see lots of bump-n-run coverage

You find plenty of players online who use this same defensive style. There are all types of aggressive players. One uses blitz packages based on the framework of the game. They use shifts and defensive playmaker options, and may move a player or two to bring the heat. The other type of players play a more freelance style of defense. They tend to move several defenders all over the field and not play within the framework of the game. Often they move defenders off the screen, creating unrealistic defenses, or may move players on the line to linebacker depth to shoot defenders through gaps to put instant heat on the quarterback.

These are what are referred to as Nano Blitz Packages. The pressure comes on the quarterback within a nanosecond of the snap. These can be set up by shifts and using the defensive playmaker hot routes.

EA Tiburon has taken some strides to clean up the game in this aspect. Nanos are not as effective as they once were in past *Madden* editions. Back in *Madden 2003*, heat could be brought from almost anywhere. Players who knew how to set them up could dominate a game if the opposing player did not know how to counter them. If you play against an opponent who knows how to set up high-pressure defenses, be prepared to use your slide protection and leave extra blockers in. Leaving the tight end in is a great way to counter nanos because he changes up the way the rest of the offensive line pass blocks. You can also motion a player behind the line and snap the ball so that he blocks. Use your slants, screens, quick outs, and dumps to backs to counter the quick heat that nanos can bring. If you can make the aggressive player pay for his style of play, then you will find him throwing in the towel more often than not.



Balanced

A player who calls a good mixture of plays on defense is the hardest player to beat. These players understand how the defense works and generally know what each defense is designed to do. They use a good mixture of zone, man, and blitz packages to keep the offense guessing.

These players will set up some nanos within the framework of the game to keep the offense on its toes, but it's not their whole game plan.

If you really want to be a top player while playing online, you need to be this type of player. Learning who covers who and who does what can make the difference in stopping your opponent.

Bend Don't Break

This type of defense takes the rubber band approach. We will bend, but won't break. This is effective online because it allows the defense to sit back and wait for the offense to come to them. Hopefully there is a change of possession by downs, or there is a mistake such as an interception or fumble. On offense you need to be extremely patient. Take what the defense gives you and dink your way down the field if you have to. The real key is converting in the red zone. Be sure to work on your red zone offense so that you can play beyond the 20s.

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THE MADDEN COMMUNITY

Madden Websites

For Your *Madden* Fix

Madden on the Internet is growing by leaps and bounds. If you are into the game of *Madden*, fire up your web browser and go take a look at these sites.

- **Madden-tips.blogspot.com**
The biggest Madden blog on the net, Madden Tips Blog provides the most up-to-date information possible about what is going on in the Madden community. Add its RSS feed to your favorite reader for info piped right to your desktop.

- **Maddentips.com**
VG Sports is the home of the serious competitive baller. With a strong forum following, you can hook up with leagues, find out about tournaments, and get help with your game. VG has a balance of sim style and free style players.

- **Maddenmania.com**
MM is the elder statesman of the *Madden* community. With an emphasis on sim-style play, MM boasts the biggest *Madden* forum on the net.

- **Maddennation.com**
MN has really emerged over the last year to provide a top notch *Madden* community. These guys are gung-ho about the game and are constantly updating the site with the latest happenings in the *Madden* world.

- **Maddenwars.com**
A competition between six teams to secure all 32 NFL stadiums to better the advancement of the group, Madden Wars is played on EA's Madden servers and the stats are kept on the site. Madden Wars is about competing against some of the best Str8/SIM guys you will find online and having fun in the process.

Talk about explosive growth. The *Madden* community is exploding all over the Internet with tens of thousands of web surfers going online to check out the latest content. This incredible online resource provides tons of sites that provide news, discussion forums and tips for your game. These are great opportunities for discovering new opponents, leagues, and other ways to compete. Discussion forums are a great way to keep your game up to date as online play evolves. These can help you develop a group of friends that you know will give you a good, fair game.

Along with the growth of *Madden* fan sites, the *Madden* Tournament world is making its way to primetime. With the EA Sports *Madden* Challenge leading the way, tournaments are popping up everywhere. More and more players are forming teams that are willing to travel all over the country to put their skills to the test. Shows such as *Madden Nation* on ESPN are putting the competitive side of the game at the forefront of the American public.

Madden NFL 07 Tournament Tips

1 Take it as a learning experience. Unless you currently play with tournament-seasoned players, you might take it on the chin in your first event. Playing online and playing face-to-face in that kind of environment is a whole new game. You will see things you may have never encountered before. Try to find events that have a Round Robin format so you receive a guaranteed number of games.

2 Register early. Many events offer a discount for players who register early. Tournament play doesn't come cheap, so get every break you can. Many of the *Madden* Challenge locations fill up quickly, so get in right away. You'll have an easier time advancing in the events in the early part of the year when the game is still new.

3 Come up with a nickname for yourself. Just about every serious tournament player has a nickname. If you just play as "Joe," everybody in the room will know you are new to the scene.

4 Try to find a league or team to join as soon as possible. This will give you a steady group of guys to play with as well as a crew to root you on at events. Teams are becoming a bigger part of the tournament world.

5 Make sure you know the rules before the event. Most quality tournaments have a web page with a description of rules. Pay special attention to use of motion, audibling from one formation to another (called audibling down), substitutions guidelines, and glitches/AI exploits that have been outlawed.

6 Practice playing games with the actual tournament rules. Most of the games that you will play only have two minutes per quarter. This totally changes the way you play the game. Get in a ton of games with your crew to get used to proper time management.

7 7. Make sure you have a back-up game plan/playbook for players who might have scouted your game. Using a variety of formations and different set of plays can throw off the competition and make it difficult for your opponent to stop you.

If you are looking for more consistent gameplay, find a league to play in. With leagues you get a steady group of players to play with and a very consistent set of rules. If you want the thrill of competition, but in a simulation environment, join a league.

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The 360 Experience

The Xbox 360 is the most powerful video game console to date. With a full year of development under their belts, the team at EA SPORTS has learned how to harness even more of the machine's capability to deliver an amazing NFL experience. Some of the new, don't-miss additions include:

JUMBOTRON

The Jumbotron animations get a facelift this year after revolutionizing the stadium environment last year. Additional animations such as MVP, Game Result, and Quarter transitions continue to bring the game to life.

NFL FILMS SOUNDS

Access to the NFL Films library rewards gives you more authentic sounds of the NFL than any other game before it. *Madden NFL 07* brings you more QBs with their real voices barking signals at the line. Prepare to be intimidated, as fierce defensive players are eager to give you a piece of their mind.

CROWD ANTICIPATION

On key events of the game, the crowd holds its collective breath in anticipation. Here's your chance to win the crowd over by making the big play.

CROWD CHANTS

Think home field advantage doesn't matter? Take control of the game and earn the respect of the crowd with all new team and player chants.

EVEN MORE REALISTIC MATERIAL FOR UNIFORMS

Uniforms more closely resemble the material that they are made of. Materials for numbers, decals, collars, and iron-on stripes all have their own natural look. (1)

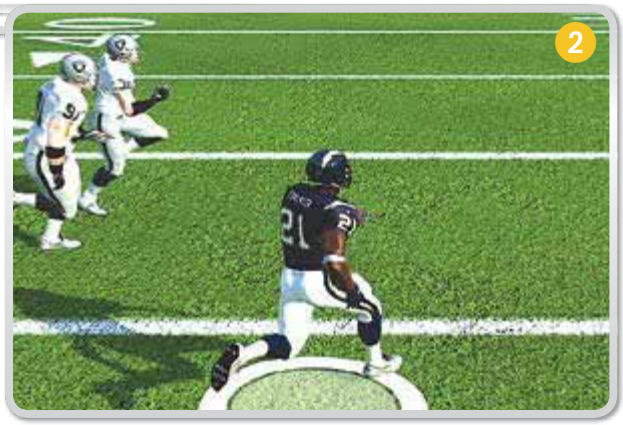
THE TURF

Grass gets an overhaul this year as the field no longer appears as a flat surface. (2)

BETTER LOOKING SKIES

All new skies provide the perfect setting noon, night, or dusk.





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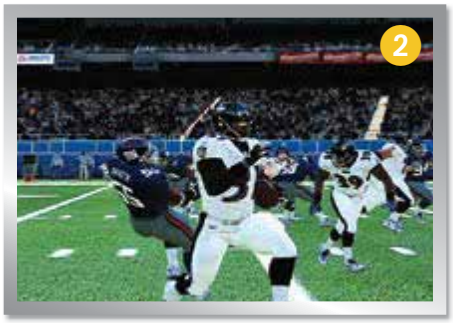
Running Styles

This year EA SPORTS is taking the individual player into account. In previous games of ***Madden NFL Football***, players all ran the same way. There just wasn't anything distinct about the player's movement. Thanks to the power of the 360, this is all changing.

The signature rushing styles of many of the NFL's great rushers have been added to the game. Tiki Barber will hold the ball up high near his shoulder when rushing the ball. (1) Jamal Lewis will blow through would-be tacklers with his trademark upright running style.but you can pick up other things as time goes along. (2)

It just doesn't end with the backs either. Speedy wide receivers showcase their skills with a new sprinting animation. You can see the difference between those who have wheels and those who don't. (3)







New Ratings

RUSHING RATINGS		DEFENSIVE LINE/LB RATINGS		COVERAGE RATINGS		RUN/PASS BLOCKING RATINGS	
TRK	Trucking	PMV	Power Moves	MCV	Man Coverage	PBK	Pass Block
ELU	Elusiveness	FMV	Finesse Moves	ZCV	Zone Coverage	RBK	Run Block
BCV	Ball Carrier Vision	BSH	Block Shedding			IBK	Impact Blocking
SFA	Stiff Arm	PRS	Pursuit			RBS	Run Block Strength
SPM	Spin Move					RBF	Run Block Footwork
JKM	Juke Move					PBS	Pass Block Strength
						PBF	Pass Block Footwork

Armed with a much more powerful Next-Gen system, EA SPORTS has expanded the roster ratings system by adding 19 new ratings. These mostly deal with the all-new emphasis on the running game and offensive line play, but several new ratings have been added for the defense as well. These new ratings represent EA SPORTS' desire to put the most realistic football experience possible in your hands. Now running backs are recognized for being better at some aspects of the running game than others.

Be sure to look over the ratings of your linebackers and defensive linemen. When controlling them, take advantage of your best skill set. If you have great finesse ratings, then use your spin moves to attack the offensive line. If power is your thing, bulldoze that lineman in front of you and knock him on his backside.



Pay attention to how your secondary covers best. If they are highly skilled at zone coverage, stay away from man. If they are strong man defenders, then put them out on an island by themselves and get after the quarterback.

Finally, you can decide to structure your offensive line to either being a running machine, or pick guys that can help you in the passing game. Obviously having balanced guys is the best solution, but sometimes you have to take what you can get in the free agent market. When this is the case, get guys that fit your style of offense best.

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XBOX

Minigames

Next Gen *Madden NFL Football* gets a series of minigames all to itself. You can play these through Mini-Camp mode, but many of the drills are integrated with the rest of the game as well. For example, you use the 40-yard dash to adjust the speed ratings for your Create-A-Player. Other drills can be used as part of the new franchise rehab mechanic. By performing the minigames skillfully, you can speed up the recovering process for your players and get them on the field and into the action.



Forty Yard Dash

Get your player across the line as quickly as possible. Right before the drill starts, push back on either analog stick to get into the ready stance. On the fourth beep, the game starts. Make your player run by alternately pushing the sticks back then releasing them. As you pick up speed, you enter the Zone where time slows down. Right before you cross the finish line, pull the right trigger to lean over the line and cut tenths of a second off of your time.



Bench Press

To lift the bar, push the two analog sticks up together and release them once you hit the green zone. After you release, the weights drop. Push up on the sticks again when entering the blue zone. Your stamina will decrease over time and if you hit the red zone. Press Left and Right Triggers quickly when the weights are falling to recover and increase your stamina.

Skill Challenges

The other four minigames all involve getting on the field and making plays against a CPU opponent. Pick your favorite team and take on the challenge to complete passes, rush for yards, make blocks, receive passes, and defend in coverage.

QUARTERBACK CHALLENGE



In this drill you have 10 passes to rack up as many points as possible — for catches, yards, and TDs. If you can string them together, you can pick up bonuses for consecutive successes. If your throwing meter runs out before you make a throw, you lose that round. After your 10 passes, the CPU gets 10 with you in coverage.

RUNNING BACK CHALLENGE



In this drill you have 60 seconds to get as many rushing yards and touchdowns as possible. If you can't put the ball in the end zone, get out of bounds to stop the clock. After you take your shot with the ball, the CPU gets the ball and you play the part of the tackler.

COVERAGE CHALLENGE



This drill has two parts. In round one, you are the wide receiver trying to break open for the pass. You get 10 attempts to make a play on the ball. You might as well run deep routes and go for the extra points that a touchdown will give you. After your reps, you take the part of the cornerback and try to prevent the receiver from making the grab.

LINEMAN CHALLENGE



You begin the drill by controlling an offensive lineman. Get in front of your blockers and lay the wood down on the defense. Use the strafe button to hold your position until you see where your back is going; you'll be in the best possible position to make the block. After your reps, you switch and play defense. Use your power moves to make the tackle.

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Madden Gamer Level

EA SPORTS has added a completely new achievement tracker this year to game, and it's called the ***Madden*** Gamer Level. ***Madden*** Gamer Level in concept, is both an achievement tracker and an overall experience meter. Similar to an MMO, users are able to level up (to a max of 50 as well as Bronze, Silver and Gold) while earning rewards such as Hall of Fame players and Create-A-Player templates. When you're ready to experience the ***Madden*** Gamer Level:

Madden Gamer Level Directions

1. When the game has been loaded, notice in the ticker that your Gamertag and your Madden Gamer Level are a persistent element

2. Press the Left Stick at any time to enter the ***Madden*** Gamer Level Screen.

3. Once in this Main Level screen, notice the following:

 • There is an Overall Progress bar which tracks your total level of achievement completion in the game.

 • There are four categories that show off progress in each individual level.

 • Pressing A on any of these categories drills down farther to another screen which shows the title of the individual tasks that you have completed, how many times and how many points earned, among other information.

4. Pressing B to return to main menu, notice the R-Stick card suite at the top of the screen. One of the big desires of the Madden Gamer Level, was that all progress and achievements were tracked regardless of playing the CPU, Offline 2 player or Online. These cards also help reinforce that. Any stats accumulated in any game type are able to be stored here without any visual difference. Gone are the days of playing one hundred online games yet your Madden User Profile said that you were 1-0 in your offline gaming.

5. There are three cards in this suite. They are:

 • Personal Best – Shows your personal bests, as well as who and when they occurred against.

 • User vs. User – Your stats vs. users that you have played.

 • Recent Games – A list of your last 10 games, regardless of online or offline.

6. The ***Madden*** Gamer Level is also tied to many of the Xbox Live achievements in the game.

Live Opponent

Live Opponent is another completely new feature that is essentially a 'virtual couch' that allows both Play Now and Franchise games to be quickly transitioned to online games with the click of one button. Users who have tired of playing the CPU 13 years into their franchise game will now be able to request an online opponent to take the spot of the CPU. Once the game is over, the stats are reported to the user's franchise and they may continue on. Users will be able to participate in Live Opponent in two forms. They will be able to add themselves to a public que of available opponents, or spoilers or they will be able to host their Franchise or Play Now game online. Also, any host is able to invite anyone from their Friends list to the game. When you are ready to experience the live opponent feature:

1. Upon entry into any Offline Team Select screen (Franchise or Play Now), simply press the LB button once to pull from the public queue and twice to invite a friend.

2. Press LB twice to pull up a friends only request.

3. Upon selection of your uniform and playbook, notice that the game is now transitioned to the online world and the Friend Blade will now appear.

4. Simply invite a player from your friend list, and you'll be matched up and enter the game.

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Live Opponent

(continued)

Becoming a member of the public queue occurs as follows:

❶ Upon bootup of the game, press the right stick left.

❷ Scroll to Online Game Modes and select Live Opponent toggle.

❸ Here you will be able to set a multitude of settings to allow for filtering of any incoming game invites.

❹ The first two options are game types. This is a major filter of the game types that you would be willing to play.

❺ The next item is Game Preferences. Here the user is able to set the exact preferences (including specific teams) that they are willing to play.

❻ Availability options allows the user to set their current availability status.

❼ Selecting Search will enter yourself into the Public Queue. Notice the green search meter that is now active in your ticker. This indicates that you are a member of the queue.

❽ You may now exit this screen and do anything you'd like in the *Madden* Front End, from fiddle with rosters, to enter Franchise mode. Note, however, that once you enter any game type, the search is ended.

❾ However, if a game is found for you, the ticker will notify you of a match. Press the LB button to view the invite and choose whether to accep, view gamer card, or decline.

Create-a-Player

Create-a-Player is back and better then ever in *Madden NFL 07*. Users are now able to fully customize the lock of their player as well as a new twist. Now, in order to set your player's ratings, you must earn it. Using our new minigames, users will now need to actually run the 40 yard dash, complete a bench press as well as a skill game to set their ratings. Also, players will now be able to select Player Type templates where they will be able to pick their player's tendency from the start. This helps take away some confusion when it comes to wanting to set a player up correctly. To experience Create-a-Player:

Create-a-Player Directions

❶ From bootup, enter My Madden and select Create-a-Player.

❷ Once here, you may set some of your player's basic attributes, such as Name, Position, Team and Jersey Number.

❸ Selecting Bio will allow you to edit your player's biographical data such as birth date, etc.

❹ Appearance will allow users to change a multitude of physical attributes, such as height, weight, arm size, etc.

❺ Accessories allows the user to completely accessorize their player using all of our new equipment.

❻ Once you have locked in your player's looks and bio, select Advance.

❼ This is the player types screen. Here, the user is able to select the player type that they would like to create. This is essentially the mold that you will be creating your player in.

❽ Once you have chosen a player type, you will be transitioned into the drills.

❾ After completing the drills, you will be returned to the overview screen where you will see your player's final ratings. After this, your player is then added to that team.

Hall of Fame

This new feature is essentially an interactive museum for the Hall of Fame players. Users will be able to do the following in the Hall of Fame:

a. View Highlight Reel – Selecting this option will display the player's NFL Films highlight reel.
b. View Biography – This will allow the user to view a quick text biography on the player outlining any of their major career accomplishments.
c. View Career Stats – Selecting this will allow the user view a player's career stats over their playing career.

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Fantasy Football 101

Welcome to the second year of fantasy football from Prima Games. But what is fantasy football? Believe it or not, there are some football fans out there that do not take place in this truly unique experience. If we are talking about you, then the following Fantasy Football 101 is the quick-start guide you are looking for. For those of you who read our Fantasty Football Draft Guide from last year, much of this intro will be familiar.

So what is Fantasy Football? Simply put, Fantasy Football is a way for football fans to assemble their "dream team" to play against other fans' teams. Each football player chosen will accrue points based on how their real life counterpart performs on the field on any given week. Say, for example, you chose Shaun Alexander and Steve Smith to be on your team, your team will then gain points based on their on-field performance that week.

Typically, participants will draft their fantasy players before the NFL season begins and settle on a scoring system for their league scoring systems vary from league to league. So picking the right combination of players will differ based on your league's scoring system and, of course, your personal preference and projections.

Sounds like too much to take on? Well, don't worry, Prima is here to ease the pain and initiate you rookies, as well as provide a comprehensive study guide for Fantasy Football newbies and seasoned veterans alike. So strap on some pads, put on your helmet, and lace up your cleats because football season is coming up and it waits for no one...

STARTING A LEAGUE

Most important in creating a Fantasy Football league is deciding ***who*** you will play with. The best thing to do is to find a few (7-9) other football enthusiasts and settle on a few things. A new league will require the following:

• **A commissioner —** This person will be in charge of the league. The "commish" will set the rules, scoring system, draft date, number of players, trade deadlines (if any) and various other details pertaining to the league as a whole. This person should be well versed in how a pigskin season develops. If your league does not have a single person that can decide on such matters, as most beginner leagues might, then it is not uncommon to make these decisions as a group and then appoint one person to manage the league.

• **A draft date —** This date should be convenient to most participants in the league. Typical drafts take anywhere from 1-2 hours, so make sure that you not only have the date clear, but also a few spare hours to dedicate to the draft.

If some participants cannot make the draft date, then they should create a draft list that places their desired players in numerical order of importance. As the players are chosen, their list dictates which player they will draft in their absence. For example, Jookie lists Shaun Alexander as his number one choice and Peyton Manning as his second, but Pogi chooses Shaun Alexander before it was Jookie's turn to pick. Jookie will then choose Peyton Manning by default. This method of absentee drafting can be tricky, so plan carefully if you can't make it to your draft.)

• **A schedule —** The schedule will decided which two fantasy football teams will face off from week to week. Some leagues will have divisions where you will only play in your division, while other leagues may allow for everyone to play against every other team throughout the course of the season.

Some — not many — leagues are not run in traditional "one player versus another" fashion. "Head to head" leagues pit one team versus another with a real win/lose schedule. The points garnered serve as tie breakers in case two teams have the same win/loss ratio. "Points" leagues do not have any teams facing off against each other. Each team accrues points per game, and the lead is determined by which team accrues the most points throughout the season. What kind of league you will be playing in should also affect your draft. Plan accordingly.

• **A weekly line-up —** This is your team. The league commissioner (or the entire league itself) will decide what kind of line-up you play from each week. Will you have three wide receivers or two? How many tight-end positions will you need to fill? Should you pick more than one running back to fill that two-back slot?

Keep both your weekly line-up, and your league's scoring system in mind when preparing for the draft. If your league is going to be a touchdown heavy league with two running back slots per team, for example, then you will want to find RB's that are more prone to getting touchdowns than heavy yardage.

• **Transaction deadlines —** Though not all leagues will allow trades after a certain week, most will restrict the amount of transactions a participant can make throughout the season. If you can't get that star wide-receiver you were eye-balling before the draft, and you have an extra pick, consider picking up a highly sought-after player for trading early in the season.

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FORGOING THE "NOOB" HASSLE

If you still can't manage to scrounge up a few friends to start a league feel free to browse online. There are hundreds of Fantasy Football leagues out there waiting to take on new participants. As with most new things you take on, make sure to research and find one that best suits your needs. Public leagues will often host introductory leagues for rookies.

Luckily, many online Fantasy Football sites are very beginner friendly. Many sites have everything from adjustable scoring system templates to stat trackers, and everything in between. Many will even include week to week player performance analysis, offer advice as to who to play and when, and even offer detailed information about how your players perform against their rival team for that week. Unfortunately, a lot of that information will come at some additional cost.

Why Should I Put This Guide to Use?

Chances are that if you're taking part in a Fantasy Football league, then you're already a football fan. If so, Fantasy Football not only engrosses you more in football from week to week, but also helps build upon your football knowledge.

Most participants tend to gravitate towards a certain NFL team. Playing Fantasy Football, however, will make each and every game throughout the season more interesting. You will find yourself cheering for that rival NFL team solely because your star running back is playing... even if your star running back is playing against your favorite team. If you choose to do so, you may even have a trophy for the league champion at the end of the season. If you *do* manage to round up a few friends to form a league, there is a good chance that it may become a yearly thing. So make sure you're in it to win it.

Courtesy of EA's *Madden NFL 2006*

So now that you are all caught up on Fantasy Football basics, it's time to plan out your strategy. Not only does Prima's **Official EA Sports™ Fantasy Football Guide** provide you with all the vital information you will need to assemble the best possible team you can, but this year's *Madden NFL Football* game guide will also help as a useful reference for possible player statistics as it boasts the most up-to-date stats for all NFL teams and their stars*. We'll see you on the Football field!

2005 NFL STATISTICS

QUARTERBACK

Player	Team	Comp	Att	PCT	Yds	YTA	Lng	TD	TD%	Int
C. Palmer	CIN	345	509	67.8	3836	7.54	70	32	6.3	12
P. Manning	IND	305	453	67.3	3747	8.27	80	28	6.2	10
Tom Brady	NEW	334	530	63.0	4110	7.76	71	26	4.9	14
M. Hasselbeck	SEA	294	449	65.5	3459	7.70	56	24	5.3	9
Drew Brees	SDG	323	500	64.6	3576	7.15	54	24	4.8	15
J. Delhomme	CAR	262	435	60.2	3421	7.86	80	24	5.5	16
E. Manning	NYG	294	557	52.8	3762	6.75	78	24	4.3	17
D. Bledsoe	DAL	300	499	60.1	3639	7.29	71	23	4.6	17
M. Brunell	WAS	262	454	57.7	3050	6.72	78	23	5.1	10
B. Favre	GNB	372	607	61.3	3881	6.39	59	20	3.3	29
K. Collins	OAK	302	565	53.5	3759	6.65	79	20	3.5	12
J. Plummer	DEN	277	456	60.7	3366	7.38	72	18	3.9	7
G. Frerotte	MIA	257	494	52.0	2996	6.07	60	18	3.6	13
B. Roethlisberger	PIT	168	268	62.7	2385	8.90	85	17	6.3	9
T. Green	KAN	317	507	62.5	4014	7.92	60	17	3.4	10

* All stats and information provided in these guides was compiled before the NFL season started and is current as of printing date.

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RUNNING BACK

Player	Team	Att	Yds	Avg	Ypg	Lng	TD	Fum	Lst
S. Alexander	SEA	370	1880	5.1	117.5	88	27	5	1
Tiki Barber	NYG	357	1860	5.2	116.3	95	9	1	1
Larry Johnson	KAN	336	1750	5.2	109.4	49	20	5	4
C. Portis	WAS	352	1516	4.3	94.8	47	11	3	2
E. James	IND	360	1506	4.2	100.4	33	13	2	1
L. Tomlinson	SDG	339	1462	4.3	91.4	62	18	2	0
Rudi Johnson	CIN	337	1458	4.3	91.1	33	12	1	0
Warrick Dunn	ATL	280	1416	5.1	88.5	65	3	1	0
Thomas Jones	CHI	314	1335	4.3	89.0	42	9	2	2
W. McGahee	BUF	325	1247	3.8	77.9	27	5	1	1
R. Droughns	CLE	309	1232	4.0	77.0	75	2	6	1
Willie Parker	PIT	255	1202	4.7	80.1	80	4	4	0
C. Williams	TAM	290	1178	4.1	84.1	71	6	3	2
S. Jackson	STL	254	1046	4.1	69.7	51	8	3	3
LaMont Jordan	OAK	272	1025	3.8	73.2	26	9	2	1

WIDE RECEIVER

Player	Team	Rec	Yds	Avg	Ypg	Lng	TD	Fum	Lst
Steve Smith	CAR	103	1563	15.2	97.7	80	12	1	0
Santana Moss	WAS	84	1483	17.7	92.7	78	9	2	1
Chad Johnson	CIN	97	1432	14.8	89.5	70	9	1	0
L. Fitzgerald	ARI	103	1409	13.7	88.1	47	10	0	0
Anquan Boldin	ARI	102	1402	13.7	100.1	54	7	2	1
Torry Holt	STL	102	1331	13.0	95.1	44	9	2	1
Joey Galloway	TAM	83	1287	15.5	80.4	80	10	0	0
Donald Driver	GNB	86	1221	14.2	76.3	59	5	0	0
P. Burress	NYG	76	1214	16.0	75.9	78	7	1	1
M. Harrison	IND	82	1146	14.0	76.4	80	12	0	0
Terry Glenn	DAL	62	1136	18.3	71.0	71	7	0	0
C. Chambers	MIA	82	1118	13.6	69.9	77	11	3	2
Rod Smith	DEN	85	1105	13.0	69.1	72	6	2	2
E. Kennison	KAN	68	1102	16.2	68.9	55	5	1	1
Derrick Mason	BAL	86	1073	12.5	67.1	39	3	1	1

TIGHT END

Player	Team	Rec	Yds	Yds/G	Lng	Avg	TD
Antonio Gates	SD	89	1101	73.4	38	12.4	10
Tony Gonzalez	KC	78	905	56.6	39	11.6	2
Todd Heap	BAL	75	855	53.4	48	11.4	7
Chris Cooley	WAS	71	774	48.4	32	10.9	7
Jermaine Wiggins	MIN	69	568	35.5	24	8.2	1
Jason Witten	DAL	66	757	47.3	34	11.5	6
Jeremy Shockey	NYG	65	891	59.4	59	13.7	7
Alge Crumpler	ATL	65	877	54.8	48	13.5	5
L.J. Smith	PHI	61	682	42.6	48	11.2	3
Randy McMichael	MIA	60	582	36.4	30	9.7	5
Erron Kinney	TEN	55	543	38.8	27	9.9	2
Ben Troupe	TEN	55	530	35.3	35	9.6	4
Marcus Pollard	DET	46	516	32.2	86	11.2	3
Jerramy Stevens	SEA	45	554	34.6	35	12.3	5
Steve Heiden	CLE	43	401	26.7	62	9.3	3

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2005 NFL STATISTICS (continued)

KICKING

Player	Team	XPM	XPA	XP%	FGM	FGA	FG%	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	Lng	Pts
J. Feely	NYG	43	43	100.0	35	42	83.3	0/0	11/13	13/14	8/10	3/5	52	148
N. Rackers	ARI	20	20	100.0	40	42	95.2	0/0	11/11	10/10	13/14	6/7	54	140
S. Graham	CIN	47	47	100.0	28	32	87.5	0/0	11/11	10/11	7/9	0/1	49	131
L. Tynes	KAN	44	45	97.8	27	33	81.8	1/1	8/8	12/13	4/8	2/3	52	125
J. Kasay	CAR	43	44	97.7	26	34	76.5	1/1	8/8	8/8	6/9	3/8	52	121
M. Vanderjagt	IND	52	52	100.0	23	25	92.0	1/1	9/9	6/7	7/8	0/0	48	121
J. Wilkins	STL	36	36	100.0	27	31	87.1	0/0	6/7	8/8	9/11	4/5	53	117
J. Reed	PIT	45	45	100.0	24	29	82.8	0/0	9/9	9/9	6/9	0/2	44	117
J. Elam	DEN	43	44	97.7	24	32	75.0	0/0	9/10	5/5	9/13	1/4	51	115
M. Stover	BAL	23	23	100.0	30	34	88.2	1/1	8/8	10/11	11/14	0/0	49	113
R. Lindell	BUF	26	26	100.0	29	35	82.9	0/0	8/9	11/13	7/10	3/3	53	113
N. Kaeding	SDG	49	49	100.0	21	24	87.5	1/1	3/3	9/9	8/11	0/0	49	112
J. Brown	SEA	56	57	98.2	18	25	72.0	0/0	5/5	4/5	4/7	5/8	55	110
O. Mare	MIA	33	33	100.0	25	30	83.3	0/0	9/10	9/12	6/6	1/2	53	108
J. Scobee	JAC	38	39	97.4	23	30	76.7	0/0	9/9	7/8	5/10	2/3	53	107

DEFENSE

Team	Tackles	Sack	Forced Sum	Int	TD's
Seattle	951	50	13	16	2
Miami	907	49	18	14	0
Pittsburgh	900	47	18	15	0
Jacksonville	845	47	15	19	2
Indianapolis	957	46	23	18	2
San Diego	911	46	13	10	2
Carolina	811	45	15	23	2
Chicago	917	41	18	24	4
NY Giants	926	41	17	17	1
St. Louis	881	41	14	13	2
Baltimore	848	41	14	12	1
Tennessee	924	41	11	9	2
Buffalo	989	38	12	17	1
Arizona	804	37	17	15	3
Atlanta	862	37	14	16	0

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1. Peyton Manning (Indianapolis)
Peyton's 2005 passing numbers were down, then again it's difficult to compete with the record setting 2004 season he had. And really, who could ever pass on this quarterback if he's on the board? The team lost running back Edgerrin James to the Arizona Cardinals so they're more likely to rely on Peyton's passing abilities this year. He's still surrounded by WR's Marvin Harrison, Reggie Wayne and TE Dallas Clark. More attempts mean more completions, yards, and touchdowns. His career average of 260 yards passing with two touchdowns is an almost guaranteed point total each week.

2. Carson Palmer (Cincinnati)
Carson had an amazing breakthrough season last year throwing 32 touchdowns. He was the top rated quarterback in most fantasy leagues before ending his year with a torn up knee in the playoffs. This would be more of a concern if he was known for his running skills, but he does his damage putting the ball in the air. The team is built to protect their quarterback and watch him air it downfield to the likes of T.J. Houshmandzadeh and Chad Johnson. It'll be tough for teams to put too much emphasis on rushing the quarterback, when the Bengal's have a reliable threat at running back in Rudi Johnson. He may have to scrape some rust off early, but Carson will be fine and the touchdowns will be even better.

3. Matt Hasselbeck (Seattle)
Getting to the Super Bowl should give Matt all the confidence he needs moving into the 2006 season. Matt was tied for 4th in the league with 24 touchdowns while only throwing 9 interceptions. A reinforced front line, talented receivers, and arguably the league's best running back in Shaun Alexander make it tough to deny the potential for success again this year. The presence of Shaun Alexander holds Matt back from having better numbers, but he's also what gives Hasselbeck the time and balance needed to pick apart defenses. Seattle lost sure-handed Joe Jurevicius to Cleveland, but gained great potential and a deep threat in Nate Burleson.

4. Tom Brady (New England)
With or without Corey Dillon, Tom proved last year he could get it done. Corey was lost to injuries for periods of last year, but Tom kept leading the team and threw an impressive 26 touchdowns. The loss of David Givens won't hurt because Reche Caldwell joined the team in the off-season. No matter what pieces you plug in around Tom they'll all be successful and so will your fantasy team if you choose him.

5. Jake Delhomme (Carolina)
Where did Steve Smith come from? If you were paying attention you'd have known Jake has favorite receivers and his favorite from two seasons ago, Mushin Muhammad, left for Chicago. Now, either they are two of the greatest receivers of all time or Jake turns receivers into gold. Let's start calling Jake "The Midas Man". If that's not enough there's another weapon to throw too, a legitimate second option receiver in Keyshawn Johnson. Talented running backs DeShaun Foster and DeAngelo Williams provide a balanced attack for Carolina, making it difficult for defenses to key in on any one area.

6. Drew Bledsoe (Dallas)
This seasoned veteran should be happy with the off-season signing of Terrell Owens. "T.O" has a new chance in Dallas and he knows it so expect him to put forth his best effort. Drew will benefit greatly from having a motivated talent of Terrell's caliber, and at least an additional 5 touchdowns over last year's 23. If teams try to shut down Terrell, he can still throw to Terry Glenn and Jason Witten.

7. Donovan McNabb (Philadelphia)
Donovan found a favorite target in Reggie Brown late last year and Andy Reid's pass-heavy offense lends itself to Donovan's arm. He has a gifted combination of tools including size, athleticism, and strength that should serve him well in this new season. The Eagles have proven themselves to be a resilient team and McNabb can put up numbers.

8. Eli Manning (New York Giants)
Quarterbacking is in the Manning family genes. Eli improved tremendously last year and now sits here in the top ten. All of the offensive weapons are returning, providing consistency to this emerging quarterback. If he can improve on his 52.8% completion percentage his numbers could be top five worthy. Wide receiver Plaxico Burress looks to be growing alongside Eli and Jeremy Shockey is a top five tight end who gives Eli an easy target. If the younger Manning ever gets in trouble he'll look out to the flat and find running back Tiki Barber waiting with open hands.

9. Daunte Culpepper (Miami)
The Dolphin fans have a big strong quarterback who has an arm like a canon. Dan Marino is still retired in the Hall of Fame but Daunte's ready to prove he's healthy and ready to lead again. He has a top-flight receiver in Chris Chambers and a big, athletic tight end in Randy McMichael. In the 2004 season Daunte had 39 touchdowns. He may not reach those numbers in '07, but he'll finish the year in the 20-25 touchdown range.

10. Marc Bulger (St. Louis)
How will the pass-heavy Rams fare without Mike Martz? We think they'll do just fine and Marc's one of the most accurate passers in the league. Watch his completion numbers rise with the team looking to incorporate the tight end position into the offense more. Defenses knew Marc was always dropping back to pass and he paid for it with two separated shoulders, but the inclusion of more rushing attempts should keep defenses off-balance. This will give Marc more time to pick them apart.

11. Jake Plummer (Denver)
12. Trent Green (Kansas City)
13. Ben Roethlisberger (Pittsburgh)
14. Michael Vick (Atlanta)
15. David Carr (Houston)
16. Kurt Warner (Arizona)
17. Aaron Brooks (Oakland)
18. Drew Brees (New Orleans)
19. Byron Leftwich (Jacksonville)
20. Brett Favre (Green Bay)

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PROJECTIONS: RUNNING BACKS

1. Shaun Alexander (Seattle)
Alexander finished the season with 1,880 yards rushing and an NFL record of 27 rushing touchdowns in a single season, need we say more? Alexander simply has a nose for the endzone, compiling at least 16 total touchdowns in his last five seasons. Having one of the best offensive lines in football doesn't hurt either. Though he is no longer working for a contract, look for Alexander to post another remarkable season as the focal point of Seattle's offense.

2. LaDanian Tomlinson (San Diego)
Tomlinson will have his work cut out for him this season with a new quarterback at the helm for the Chargers. However, there is no better player to rely on than "LT." Easily considered the most complete running back in the league, he posted big numbers again last season with 1,462 yards rushing, 370 yards receiving, and 20 total touchdowns. Look for Tomlinson to continue the pace again this season while getting plenty of touches, especially as Philip Rivers gets acclimated.

3. Larry Johnson (Kansas City)
Johnson took over for Priest Holmes in the second half of last season, and hasn't looked back. With season totals of 1750 yards rushing and 21 total touchdowns, it's hard to believe he only started 9 games. A power runner with break-away speed, Johnson will get the opportunity to show what he can do with a full season under new head coach Herm Edwards. Look for big things from this explosive back.

4. Rudi Johnson (Cincinnati)
Rudi will be looking at an increased role in this season with Carson Palmer's injury still in question. However, even with the Bengal's offense in full swing, he remains the consistent ground attack in a dynamic offense. This balanced offense will also put Rudi in the redzone frequently during goal line situations. Rudi finished the season with 1,458 yards rushing and 12 touchdowns.

5. Tiki Barber (New York Giants)
Tiki continues to defy nature by seemingly getting better with each passing year. He not only totaled 1,860 yards on the ground last season, he had 54 receptions for 530 yards, and totaled 11 touchdowns. Always a threat of breaking out a long run, Tiki even managed to rack up 200+ yards three times last season. If his past three seasons are any indicator, Tiki will continue to shine as a premier back again this year.

6. Clinton Portis (Washington)
Portis quieted the critics after finishing fourth in the NFL in rushing yards last season, and helping propel his team into the playoffs for the first time in five years. He finished the season with 1,516 yards rushing and 12 total touchdowns. And with the new acquisitions of wide receivers Brandon Lloyd and Antwaan Randle El, the Redskins will have a more balanced offense, giving Portis more opportunities to achieve and more opportunities in the redzone.

7. LaMont Jordan (Oakland)
Jordan was consistent in Oakland's offense last season. Capable of carrying a heavy work load, he was Oakland's top rusher and receiver this past season with 1,025 rushing yards, and 70 receptions for 563 yards. With Art Shell now in charge and new quarter back Aaron Brooks, the Raiders look to balance out their offense, which will only add to Jordan's numbers. Either way, you can expect Jordan to once again be the powerful workhorse with many touches in the redzone as the team's outlet receiver and goal line rusher.

8. Steven Jackson (St. Louis)
Speed. Power. Mobility. Steven Jackson has all the makings to be a premier back this season. He posted a 1000+ yard season with 10 total touchdowns in his sophomore season, and first season as a starter. And now with coach Martz out of town, the Ram's may look more toward their running game, putting Jackson in position to have more carries and continued success on the goal line.

9. Willis McGahee (Buffalo)
Although he rushed for 1,247 yards, he only found the endzone 5 times last season — a far cry from his 13 TDs the previous year. Part of this can be attributed to Buffalo's passing game, which left defenses to focus on stopping the run. However, clearly being the center of the Bills' offense guarantees McGahee will get plenty of touches and goal line carries and opportunities to do what he does best. And if he gets a little more help from the passing game, he will return to bringing in big numbers.

10. Edgerrin James (Arizona)
Everyone knows the kind of success that Edge has had in Indianapolis behind Peyton Manning's explosive offense. He is an exceptional back, posting 1,506 rushing yards and 14 total touchdowns. However, he is no longer lining up behind Manning and the Colt's incredible offensive line. Look for his numbers to decrease a bit from previous years as Arizona transitions him into a focal point of their offense. You can be assured, however, that Edge will get lots of goal line opportunities.

11. Ronnie Brown (Miami)
12. Carnell Williams (Tampa Bay)
13. Domanick Davis (Houston)
14. Brian Westbrook (Philadelphia)
15. Kevin Jones (Detroit)
16. Julius Jones (Dallas)
17. Corey Dillon (New England)
18. Tatum Bell (Denver)
19. Willie Parker (Pittsburgh)
20. Reggie Bush (New Orleans)

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1. Steve Smith (Carolina)
Smith rebounded back from a broken leg in 2004 to the lead the league with 1,563 yards and was tied for first in receptions (103) and receiving touchdowns (12). Seattle shut him down in the NFC Championship game with multiple DBs covering him. Carolina then signed Keyshawn Johnson. This move could help Smith get less coverage and add to his reputation of being one of the league's premier deep threats.

2. Chad Johnson (Cincinnati)
Chad Johnson talked the talk and walked the walk last season. CPR anyone? He finished third in receiving yards (1,432) and had 97 receptions with nine touchdowns. Carson Palmer loves throwing to this guy! He could get more touches due to the solid running game of Rudi Johnson and the talents of fellow wide receiver T.J. Houshmandzadeh. What's missing? Excessive touchdown celebrations?

3. Terrell Owens (Dallas)
Despite Owens' physical play with whoever is covering him, he will probably be on his best behavior for Jerry Jones and Bill Parcells. He had 47 receptions, 763 yards and six touchdowns in seven games last season. Drew Bledsoe will enjoy throwing deep to him to create some big plays on O. Owens is one of the best red zone receivers in the league.

4. Randy Moss (Oakland)
Randy Moss is one of the most explosive offensive players and deep threats in NFL history. He is also the only receiver in league history to record 1,000-yard seasons in his first six seasons. Last year he finished with 60 receptions, 1,005 yards and 8 touchdowns. New QB Aaron Brooks brings mobility and a deep pass and that may give Moss even more time to get open downfield and score.

5. Marvin Harrison (Indianapolis)
Over the last seven seasons Harrison has had at least 1,100 yards and 10 touchdowns. Talk about consistency! His route running is almost borderline psychic with Peyton Manning. Some people have said that he has lost a step but his 82 receptions, 1,146 yards and 12 touchdowns in 2005 says otherwise. With Edgerrin James gone, does that mean more passing on the offense?

6. Larry Fitzgerald (Arizona)
This Cardinals wide receiver is raising eyebrows throughout the league! Fitzgerald was tied with Steve Smith for most receptions in the NFL (103), fourth in receiving yards (1,409) and tied for fifth in touchdowns (10) in his second season. The Cardinals offense is built to throw but that may change with the arrival of Edgerrin James. If Warner has to pick a receiver to throw to more often, will it be the man with the hops (Fitzgerald) or the tough guy over the middle (Boldin)?

7. Anquan Boldin (Arizona)
Talk about a dilemma! Choosing between Boldin and Larry Fitzgerald is a tough choice and creates a heated debate in any football circle. This former quarterback for the Florida State Seminoles set an NFL rookie record with 101 receptions in 2003. Boldin's numbers from last year 102 receptions, 1,402 yards and 7 touchdowns was done in only 14 starts. But Boldin has shown that once he catches the ball, tackling him is a different story.

8. Torry Holt (St. Louis)
Six seasons of at least 1,300 receiving yards makes this guy a Top Ten wide receiver. Holt finished the 2005 season with third in receptions (102), sixth in receiving yards (1,331) and 9 touchdowns. And this is without Marc Bulger for eight games! It does not seem to matter who throws to Holt, it is his ability to get yards after the catch that pumps his stats. The big question for Holt's success is if new coach Scott Linehan will keep the vertical game.

9. Hines Ward (Pittsburgh)
This is Ben Roethlisberger's go-to guy. Not only did he score 11 touchdowns last year, he was voted MVP in Super Bowl XL. In the last four years, Ward has had 10+ touchdowns in three of them. He is one of the most versatile receivers because he can throw (played some QB at University of Georgia) and is one of the best blocking receivers in the league. With Jerome Bettis retired, there is more opportunity for Ward to get those red zone passes for touchdowns.

10. Chris Chambers (Miami)
Chambers had a career year in 2005 with Gus Frerotte as his QB. He finished with 82 receptions, 1,118 yards and 11 touchdowns. In the final 8 games of the season, Chambers went on fire and had 701 yards and 8 touchdowns. If Daunte Culpepper stays healthy, Chambers will be expected to top the 1,000-yard barrier again with a bunch of long touchdown receptions.

11. Roy Williams (Detroit)
12. Reggie Wayne (Indianapolis)
13. Darrell Jackson (Seattle)
14. Plaxico Burress (New York Giants)
15. Donald Driver (Green Bay)
16. Andre Johnson (Houston)
17. Joey Galloway (Tampa Bay)
18. Deion Branch (New England)
19. Joe Horn (New Orleans)
20. Javon Walker (Denver)

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PROJECTIONS: TIGHT ENDS

1.Antonio Gates (San Diego)
Sure, with Phil Rivers taking over the San Diego offense there are some questions as to whether or not Mr. Gates will pull down 10 or more TD's this season, or even break the 1000-yard mark again, but if there's one thing that "Young-buck Quarterbacks" like, its their Tight-End. Gates has proven himself to be an elite-TE with whom a young Quarterback can trust the ball, and a TE who can catch the long ball (Gates lead NFL TE's with sixteen 20+ yard catches). Expect a slow start-off, and wait for a jail-break October.

2. Tony Gonzalez (Kansas City)
Trent Green is one of the NFL's greatest Quarterbacks (at least his YPG suggest so), and although Gonzalez is getting a little old, his play is still essential for the Chief's offensive march. Sure, Larry Johnson is bringing it hard from the backfield and getting all of the goal-line calls because of it, but Tony will still get his share. Expect him to bring at least 900 receiving yards to your team, and anywhere between 6 and 8 TD's.

3. Jeremy Shockey (New York Giants)
Shockey is a man-beast, and on top of that, he is still one of the necessary anchors to the Giants' Offense. You can definitely expect that a large chunk of the 35 passing attempts per game to be sent his direction, and for him to pull down at least 7 TD's and 800 or more yards as long as Eli Manning stays healthy and Tom Coughlin keeps the offense balanced.

4. Jason Witten (Dallas)
An All-Madden performance this year might be in the cards for Jason Witten! The addition of Terrell Owens to the Cowboys' offense will attract a lot of defensive concentration and leave Witten with a lot more room for stardom. Anticipate a slight drop in receptions, a large increase in receiving yards, and a definite increase in TD catches.

5. Alge Crumpler (Atlanta)
Crumpler is the favorite target of Michael Vick. He has the most receptions (65), receiving yards (877), and will continue to be a dependable source of points for your fantasy team. Expect at least 800 yards with 5 or more TD's

6. Todd Heap (Baltimore)
With the addition of Steve McNair the Ravens gain a deep-pass threat that will open up a variety of routes for Heap. McNair should thrive under Brian Billick's system, and once he becomes more comfortable (say, in October), then Heap will thrive and likely put up 700+ receiving yards and 6+ TD's.

7. Heath Miller (Pittsburgh)
Look for a high number of TD's from this second year TE and favored goal-line target of Big Ben. Sure, he only put up 450 yards in receiving, but had the second most amounts of receptions (39) and touchdowns (6). Miller should be an immediate presence on your team as long as Ben keeps the bike in the garage.

8. Randy McMichael (Miami)
Daunte Culpepper will make an instantaneous impact on the Dolphins through the hands of Randy McMichael. McMichael has already proven to be one of the Dolphins' best receivers in 2005 (5 TDs with 582 receiving yards), and will most likely continue to develop and pad those stats.

9. Chris Cooley (Washington)
Although Cooley had a tremendous year in 2005 (7 TD's with 774 receiving yards), the Redskins have solidified their receiving corps in the acquisition of Antwaan Randle El and Brandon Lloyd, and it is questionable whether this will impair or increase the role Cooley played last year.

10. Dallas Clark (Indianapolis)
With the departure of Edgerrin James the Colts' passing game will be used as a crutch at the start of the season, and that should force Clark's stats to be higher than usual. Anticipate roughly 600 receiving yards with 6+ TD's this year.

11. LJ Smith (Philadelphia)
12. Vernon Davis (San Francisco)
13. Jerramy Stevens (Seattle)
14. Ben Troupe (Tennessee)
15. Kellen Winslow (Cleveland)

PROJECTIONS: KICKERS

1. Neil Rackers (Arizona)
Arizona's going to score a lot of points this year... yes, Arizona. They weren't shabby last year, but with the addition of Edgerrin James at running back there may be no stopping the Cardinals. With that being said the number two kicker last year (in terms of points) was Neil. Look for him to surpass Jay Feely as the top place kicker in the league. Saying Neil is an accurate kicker is an understatement. He had an amazing 95.2% success rate kicking field goals. His only two misses for the entire year were from 43 and 54 yards.

2. Shayne Graham (Cincinnati)
Shayne received the gift of 47 extra point attempts. The Bengals were one of the most frequent visitors to the end-zone and Shayne was third overall in points because of it. Because the team hasn't changed or lost any key components, he should be rewarded again this year. It's not like he's a chump kicking field goals either. His success rate for field goals was 87.5%, the 7th best last year. He doesn't have as strong a leg as some other kickers, but the team's consistency provides all the opportunities he'll need to overcome that.

3. David Akers (Philadelphia)
David is coming off a torn hamstring injury suffered at the end of last season, so some may think he is a risky pick not worthy of our number 3 spot. Remember though, David was a top five scorer in 2 of the past three seasons and it looks like the hamstring is 100% healed – look for him to bounce back with a 100 point season.

4. Jason Elam (Denver)
Jason is getting a little long in the tooth but the combination of the thin Denver air and the loss of red zone beast Mike Anderson should provide Elam with plenty of 30 yard opportunities. Jason may not

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PROJECTIONS: KICKERS (continued)

have the leg to put it in from distance anymore, but he is still reliable from inside 40 yards.

5. Jay Feely (New York Giants)
The Giants proved to be an offensive juggernaut last year and Jay was the benefactor scoring more points than any other kicker. He's not the most accurate kicker, but that's only because the coach let him attempt 15 kicks from 40+ yards. The number of offensive weapons allows the team to consistently move within field goal range and give Jay a try. There's been no change to the offensive team to give any reason why Jay shouldn't have a repeat performance.

6. Adam Vinatieri (Indianapolis)
7. Jeff Reed (Pittsburgh)
8. Ryan Longwell (Minnesota)
9. Mike Vanderjagt (Dallas)
10. Matt Stover (Baltimore)
11. John Kasay (Carolina)
12. Josh Brown (Seattle)
13. Nate Kaeding (San Diego)
14. Lawrence Tynes (Kansas City)
15. Jeff Wilkins (St. Louis)

PROJECTIONS: DEFENSE

1. Chicago
The Bears defense was a nasty bunch of dudes last year. They had 41 sacks, 26 forced fumbles, 24 interceptions (4 returned for touchdowns), and allowed just over 12 points per game on average. Good news is they're returning all their key players from last year, so they should be just as dominant this season. 4-time Pro Bowler, Brian Urlacher, leads the defense but the depth on the team is amazing. Surrounding Brian are two more Pro Bowlers from last year, linebacker Lance Briggs and cornerback Nathan Vasher. If not for injuries Mike Brown would've joined them and pass rusher Adewale Ogunleye looks poised to get on the plane this year to Honolulu.

2. Carolina
Can you hear the roar? The Panthers 4-3 base defense only allowed an average 16.2 points per game, while sacking quarterbacks 45 times and recovering 19 fumbles. Their solid secondary occupied by Chris Gamble, Ken Lucas, and Mike Minter captured a majority of the team's 23 interceptions. They've also tried to solidify the linebacker position by picking up Na'il Diggs in the off-season and cornerback Richard Marshall in the draft. The bread and butter of this defense is still the second overall pick in the 2002 draft, Julius Peppers, who strikes fear in opponents with his speed, strength, agility, and black face shield.

3. Pittsburgh
All you need to do is read off the names from this defense and you know it's something special…a mini "Steel Curtain" if you will. Troy Polamalu is most recognizable by the black curly hair fighting to get out of his helmet, but Joey Porter, James Farrior, Larry Foote, and Clark Haggans are just as well known by the blurs you see (or don't see) dashing around the field and hitting people. It hurts that they lost Kimo von Oelhoffen, but their 3-4 defense lends itself to less up front so the linebackers can go to work. Don't be surprised if the fumble recoveries go up this year.

4. Jacksonville
The Jaguars 4-3 defense is anchored, almost literally, by tackles Marcus Stroud and John Henderson. You're not likely to see many running backs break through the middle of those two guys. Head coach Jack Del Rio is known for his tenacity and defensive prowess, which seems to have carried over to the defense's identity. The team had 28 take-away's and 47 sacks last year while only allowing 16.1 points per game. Same team as last year means a good chance of the same results this year.

5. Indianapolis
You'd think with all the scoring the Colts do the opposing offense would have more opportunities to score, but that wasn't true last year. This defense only allowed on average 15.4 points per game, second overall, while sacking the quarterback 46 times. They run a Cover 2 defense that forces quarterbacks to look for targets a little longer, allowing lineman and ends (like Dwight Freeney) more time to get pressure on the quarterback. If the quarterback does get the pass off the secondary is likely to be in position for an interception or deflection.

6. Tampa Bay
7. Seattle
8. Baltimore
9. New England
10. N.Y. Giants
11. Washington
12. Dallas
13. Atlanta
14. Miami
15. Buffalo

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Draft Strategy

TOUCHDOWN LEAGUES vs. YARDAGE LEAGUES

The object of fantasy football is to assemble a team that will whoop up on everyone else's team. The team with the most points wins, so finding out what type of league you're playing in is key. There are two fundamental leagues usually played by everyone. In fantasy football terms, the two leagues are either a Touchdown League or Yardage League.

Touchdown League

The Touchdown League is just what it sounds like. Your team compiles points based on players scoring touchdowns. There are usually two categories for accumulating points. Touchdowns thrown count for 4 points in most leagues, whereas touchdowns run in or received are worth 6 points. Quarterbacks usually score more touchdowns than running backs and receivers, accounting for the scoring discrepancy. In this type of league it's important to find guys who score often, not necessarily guys who gain a lot of yardage. A great example can be drawn from the Atlanta Falcon's T.J. Duckett's running game last year. Warrick Dunn was the primary running back racking up yardage like a mad man to the five yard line, but from there T.J. Duckett would take over and score touchdowns with very little yardage. In this league Duckett would be the favorable choice.

Yardage League

The Yardage League is a more balanced scoring system using not only touchdowns as points, but also a compilation of yardage totals. Touchdown points are usually similar to that of Touchdown leagues, except there are often "bonus" points associated with the length of touchdown scored. For example a 60 yard touchdown received may be worth 10 points, whereas a 5 yard touchdown received would be worth 6 points.

Aside from touchdowns, points can be generated from total yardage thrown, run, or received. For example, some leagues are set-up to give rushing and receiving points for every 10 or 20 yards. Each increment of 10 or 20 yards would garner a certain point value. The quarterback position may be similarly scored, except with a larger integer between yardages. Most leagues will give specified points to a quarterback for every 25 to 50 yards thrown.

Again, "bonuses" are usually set-up in the scoring system to reward players gaining yardage past certain milestones clarified by their league commissioner. In this type of league, look for players who get the ball often. Scoring a lot of touchdowns is always good, but it's equally important to find someone with the possibility of adding "bonuses" to their point totals through compiled yardage.

With the flexibility of online leagues, it is possible that your league can be a hybrid of the two major league formats. Speak with your other Fantasy Football participants to decide on what league format works best for you.

HOW TO GET READY

Be prepared! Do your homework and know what you want to do. Have a game plan on draft day. Most owners will often have printouts of complete statistics by key positions. Scribbled notes of top ten players at each position is another common choice. The prior year's fantasy results from another league. Or they may have a fantasy football magazine that does the work for them, such as... ahem... a Prima Guide! Whatever strategy you bring, just make sure you have some study materials to thumb through while you're preparing for your next pick. But you should be fully aware of the opposing owners' draft strategy too.

WATCHING THE OPPOSING OWNERS

One of the biggest mistakes made by owners is not being aware of their counterparts. Most leagues have a draft board or complete the draft online. Either way it should be possible to view the other owners' picks. Scanning everyone else's team is a key to not making mistakes.

Let's say you had three picks and you selected 2 running backs and 1 wide receiver, but you obviously still need a quarterback. Your next pick shouldn't necessarily be a quarterback. If all the other teams have already drafted their quarterback then they won't be looking to add a back-up until later in the draft. They'll be going after running backs and receivers most likely. So, your next choice should probably be another running back, receiver or even the best tight end, kicker, or defense if still available. What you're doing is taking another great player away from opposing teams while solidifying yours. None of the owner's are going to take that quality quarterback still on the board because they've already filled that position. You can then pick up that quarterback slightly later in the draft without essentially "wasting" a prime pick. Another strategy is to "steal" players that an opposing owner may need. It may not be the most necessary pick for you at the time, but you can always make trades and it may give you another option at that position. The idea is that you shouldn't be so consumed by your team that you fail to see strengths and weaknesses of other teams. Doing this may also force another team into choosing a weaker player at the needed position. Effective, yes. Dirty, maybe. Illegal, no. Play to win.

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BYE WEEKS

Don't be that guy! Inevitably there's someone in the draft who picks players of the same position that have the same bye week. This year should be looked at with an especially careful eye on bye weeks since weeks 6 and 7 have a whopping six teams taking the day off, rather than the usual four. It's simple though; get an NFL schedule with bye weeks and write down a list of weeks with the teams on a bye for that week.

If you pick players of the same position with the same bye week, you'll go into that week either having to dump a player or two that you want to keep in order to pick up some players, or you'll be forced to play that week with one or two empty spots. You want to be able to spread out the bye weeks throughout the year so that you're not left with a depleted team on any given Sunday (or Monday... or Thursday or Saturday).

You could argue that you're playing the most talented team for 16 weeks, but you're simply giving away one of those weeks if a majority of your team is out. Any bench player should be able to come in during the starter's bye week to get you some points. Don't be stuck scrambling last minute to put a team together when all you needed was a list of teams' bye weeks on a piece of paper for draft day.

Mock Draft

To illustrate the draft process and to provide some possible draft strategies, we have set up a mock draft. The following is the draft that took place between seven knowledgeable Fantasy Football veterans and one "neewbie."

MOCK DRAFT LEAGUE SETTINGS

We set up an average league scenario of 16 players, 10 starter positions and a 6 player bench. This year we added the popular RB/WR "flex" position where on any given week an extra running back or wide receiver may be played. We chose a touchdown heavy league where all touchdowns count as 6 points no matter who scores them or the length of touchdown. There are point allotments for the amount of yards a player passes (1pt per 50yds), receives (1pt per 20yds), and rushes (1pt per 20yds). Defense scores based on points allowed, interceptions, sacks, and fumble recoveries. Points can also be deducted for thrown interceptions.

You will find that this is a pretty standard and universal scoring method with online Fantasy Football leagues.

(See www.primagames.com for complete mock draft rules and scoring breakdown, as well as weekly updates.)

TEAM BREAKDOWNS

Each team consists of 10 starting positions and 6 bench players.

STARTING POSITIONS		BENCH SLOTS (6)
QB		
WR		
WR		
WR		
RB		
RB		
RB/WR		
TE		
K		
D		

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MOCK DRAFT RESULTS

Straws were drawn to determine the drafting order. The results below are presented in that order with The Dude selecting first, and Macster selecting last. We chose a standard "snaking" order where the last person gets 2 picks in a row, sending the drafting in the opposite order that it began. The first person then gets 2 picks in a row to send it back, and so on. In short, with the exception of the very first pick, the first and last person will always have back to back selections.

Each "owner/coach" has provided a personal synopsis of their draft strategies and results, in addition to their "sleeper" picks (one per position).

	DUDE	POGI	ZAG	RED STAR	DAN	JOOKIE	PAPPA G	MACSTER
Round 1	Larry Johnson	Shaun Alexander	La Danian Tomlinson	Peyton Manning	Tiki Barber	Rudi Johnson	Clinton Portis	Edgerrin James
Round 2	Lamont Jordan	Carnell Williams	Terrell Owens	Thomas Jones	Steve Smith	Chad Johnson	Steven Jackson	Carson Palmer
Round 3	Torry Holt	Marvin Harrison	Ronnie Brown	Larry Fitzgerald	Randy Moss	Antonio Gates	Anquan Boldin	Darrell Jackson
Round 4	Hines Ward	Donovan McNabb	Roy Williams	Willie Parker	Domanick Davis	Chris Chambers	Willis McGahee	Julius Jones
Round 5	Trent Green	Joey Galloway	Tony Gonzalez	Santana Moss	Tom Brady	Brian Westbrook	Jeremy Shockey	Reggie Wayne
Round 6	Chris Cooley	Donald Driver	Plaxico Burress	Reggie Bush	Matt Hasselbeck	Andre Johnson	Chicago D	Alge Crumpler
Round 7	Deion Branch	Jerry Porter	Jake Delhomme	Todd Heap	Kevin Jones	Drew Bledsoe	TJ Houshmandzadeh	Eli Manning
Round 8	Ruben Droughns	Vernon Davis	Carolina D	Keenan McCardell	Joe Horn	Javon Walker	Derrick Mason	Heath Miller
Round 9	Steelers D	Frank Gore	Marc Bulger	NY Giants D	Jason Witten	DeShaun Foster	Chester Taylor	Tampa Bay D
Round 10	Mike Vick	Seattle D	Corey Dillon	Warrick Dunn	Jamal Lewis	DeAngelo Williams	Nate Kaeding	Mike Williams
Round 11	Adam Vinatieri	Lee Evans	Niel Rackers	Daunte Culpepper	Indianapolis D	Jake Plummer	Rod Smith	Mark Clayton
Round 12	Duece McAllister	Ben Roethlisberger	Dallas Clark	Isaac Bruce	Tatum Bell	Reggie Brown	TJ Duckett	Ryan Longwell
Round 13	Eddie Kennison	Jay Feely	Drew Bennett	Mike Vanderjagt	Nate Burleson	Jacksonville D	Matt Jones	Greg Jones
Round 14	David Givens	Joseph Addai	Arizona D	Randy McMichael	Terry Glenn	Ahman Green	Laveranues Coles	Miami D
Round 15	LJ Smith	Ben Watson	Kurt Warner	Washington D	Jeremy Stevens	Santonio Holmes	LenDale White	Braylon Edwards
Round 16	Baltimore D	Dallas D	Brandon Lloyd	Antwaan Randle El	Shayne Graham	David Akers	Aaron Brooks	Jeff Reed

THE DUDE Says...

Being new to Fantasy Football and getting the number one draft pick does make one nervous. Not knowing a whole lot about football stats or the history of players made this a good learning experience. After talking with others and reading some articles I decided to go with Running Back Larry Johnson and not just because I'm a KC fan, but because he has great potential. With my first five picks I really wanted to nail down some key players who I think will score big for me this year. Even though Trent Green isn't in the top ten I really feel he is overlooked as a starting QB. My next few picks I wanted to fill in my other key spots along with a backup QB. My last five picks were all about making sure I had my bye weeks covered and that I didn't have holes in my team. So now I'm excited for the season to start and see how my team does. Go Chiefs!

Sleepers: Well, I didn't want to try fooling you guys by pulling picks out of thin air, so for this year I abstain. It is my first year playing Fantasy Football, remember? I'll leave the logical picks, ahem, to the "experts."

POGI Says...

The Dude had the first pick and he chose Larry Johnson. That pick made my life a little easier. I walked to the board and with the second overall pick of the fantasy draft, I wrote down Shaun Alexander. I was debating between Alexander and LT but with Phillip Rivers starting in SD, my gut told me Shaun Alexander. The guy set an NFL record with 28 touchdowns. Also, his attempts, rushing totals and touchdowns have been going up the last few years. Drafting at least two running backs in the early rounds was my priority. I had to wait thirteen picks to get my next one. Tiki Barber, Rudi Johnson, Clinton Portis, Edgerrin James, Steven Jackson and Thomas Jones were all taken by the time my next pick arrived. I drafted another running back, Carnell Williams, even though he is somewhat risky. He was injured for a period of time and Mike Alstott usually gets the short yardage scores. But he will get a lot of carries.

My next order of business was to get a wide receiver. I went with Mr. Consistent, Marvin Harrison. Peyton loves going to him in the clutch. Next on the agenda were quarterbacks. I took Donovan McNabb in Round 4 and Ben Roethlisberger in Round 12. Both are consistent and I like having the choice of who to play that week depending on the match up. Other wide receivers I drafted were Joey Galloway, Donald Driver, Jerry Porter and Lee Evans. Galloway has had success with whoever is QBing, Driver will be the number one target for Favre, Porter has a more mobile quarterback with an

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POGI Says... (continued)



arm in Aaron Brooks and Evans is now the number one option in Buffalo. I kept checking my notes to make sure that I was on top of players drafted and players I wanted on bye weeks. Vernon Davis became my tight end. What?! A rookie? On the Niners? He's the only potential target Alex Smith has. Frank Gore became my third running back. Yeah, yeah. The Niners have been challenged offensively but I think that Gore will beat out Kevan Barlowe and have some room to run with the addition of Larry Allen. Usually I like to get my defense and kicker near the end but I took the Seattle D and Jay Feeley. The Seattle defense led the league in sacks, was in the Top 10 in points against and acquired Julian Peterson. Feeley led all kickers in points scored and the Giants offense really has not changed. What was Pappa G thinking taking Nate Keading in Round 10? I took another running back in Round 14. Joseph Addai. Indianapolis needs a running game now that Edgerrin James has bolted for Arizona and it may be with this rookie from LSU. The last two picks were tight end Ben Watson and the Dallas defense. Watson has proven he can catch the ball and with David Givens gone, there is more opportunity for him. The Dallas defense will only get better with the 3-4. Like the quarterbacks, I like to have the choice to use both defenses depending on the weekly match up. Now the wait begins. It looks good on paper, will it be enough? The trash talking starts with the NFL season on Thursday, September 7.

Sleepers:

Quarterback: David Carr (Houston Texans)
There may be new life for this former Fresno State quarterback with the addition of Gary Kubiak as head coach and Mike Sherman as an offensive assistant. His cannon arm combined with his rushing can produce results quickly. A big concern that may limit him is his pass protection. Carr has been sacked 208 times in four years.

Running Back: Reuben Droughns (Cleveland Browns)
Droughns has had back to back 1,200+ yard seasons. Even though he only had two touchdowns last year, he has proven he can run and catch with a bad offensive line. This year the Browns added some talent and upgrades to the "O" line like center LeCharles Bentley. This means that the running game may be more effective and as well as more chances for touchdowns.

Wide Receiver: Nate Burleson (Seattle Seahawks)
Drafted by the Minnesota Vikings in 2003, he showed promise. In the 2004 season, he tore up the league with 1,006 yards and 9 TDs when Randy Moss injured his hamstring. Now with Seattle, Burleson potentially can show his stuff as an excellent route runner with solid support from his quarterback and a great running game.

Tight End: Vernon Davis (San Francisco 49ers)
Vernon Davis has a 4.41 40-yard dash and a 40 inch vertical jump. Combine this with his great hands and his ability for getting open and he will be difficult to cover. He has proven to be a versatile player with experience lining up at fullback and wide receiver. He will be the outlet Alex Smith needs.

Kicker: Olindo Mare (Miami Dolphins)
Olindo Mare may be a risky pick but during the 2005 season, he went 25 of 30 on field goals, converting 83.3% of his attempts to finish with 108 points. With the addition of Daunte Culpepper, the emergence of Ronnie Brown, and Chris Chambers, more opportunities may arise for Mare.

Defense: Dallas Cowboys
The Tuna switched his defense to a 3-4 last year and it paid off. This year he solidified it with personnel upgrades. He got it with first round draft pick Bobby Carpenter and the signing of Akin Ayodele. With DeMarcus Ware, Chris Canty and Marcus Spears, Dallas looks to return to defensive greatness. Oh yeah, did I forget to mention Roy Williams? This defense may get some rest now that the offense has become more potent with the acquisition of Terrell Owens.

Prospect: Joseph Addai (Indianapolis Colts)
Addai is a solid blocker who can also be a threat out of the backfield. He's fast, runs with power and has good balance. This can post big numbers in the Indianapolis offense. He may not have a lot of experience but protecting Peyton Manning may get him a lot of time on the field. One question remains - will he be sharing time with Dominic Rhodes?

ZAG Says...



I was lucky enough to draw the third pick in this year's draft — which guaranteed me one of what I consider the three elite running backs in the NFL. On my draft board I had Larry Johnson, La Danian Tomlinson and Shawn Alexander basically even so I just sat back and waited. To my surprise it turned out to be LT that fell to the third pick and I was happy to snatch him up. With Philip Rivers as the starting QB in San Diego this year I think LT may get even more of the offensive workload, and LT is one of the few players in the NFL that can score anytime he touches the ball no matter where he is on the field. With my second pick I was looking for an impact wide receiver and grabbed Terrell Owens. I know TO has had his challenges over the last year but I'm counting on three things keeping him in check this season. First, Bill Parcel has shown he can handle any player. Second, Drew Bledsoe is a quality QB who airs it out so that should keep Owens happy. Third and finally, I think Owens wants to show everyone how good he is, and make no mistake, he is *good*. I used my next four picks (Ronnie Brown, Roy Williams, Tony Gonzalez, and Plaxico Burress) to fill out my RB, TE and WR positions. I think Roy Williams will flourish under Mike Martz in Detroit, and I look for Tony Gonzalez to bounce back from a below average 2005 season. With my 7th pick I decided it was time to grab a QB and Jake Delhomme was my guy. I thought about going with a more prolific passer but Jake's steady play and relatively injury free history drew me to him. I picked up the Caro-

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ZAG Says… (continued)



lina defense next and was pleasantly surprised to grab Marc Bulger and Corey Dillon with 9th and 10th round picks respectively – always good to get a couple of solid veteran backups with late round picks. I was so amused with Pappa G accidentally picking Nate Kaeding as the first kicker in our draft that I had to choose Niel Rackers (the player Pappa G meant to pick) with my next pick. I'm fairly certain I could have picked up a top notch kicker with either of my next two picks, but I make it a point never to pass up an opportunity to rub someone face in a bonehead move. I used my last four picks taking the best available at key positions (QB, TE, WR). Overall I'm happy with my picks but I also admit that my draft is wrought with risk. If Rivers is a bust in San Diego it could really hurt LT's scoring chances, and TO may not fit in Dallas, which would wipe out my top two picks. Like always, we'll just have to wait and see.

Sleepers:

Quarterback: Kurt Warner (Arizona)
Arizona has a good chance this year to make some noise offensively. Larry Fitzgerald and Edgerin James provide a well-balanced attack and give Warner more firepower than he has had in years. Warner is worth the risk and if you can get him in a middle/late round snatch him up.

Running Back: Mike Anderson (Baltimore)
This guy is a goal line specialist. And while he may not get a ton of yards, look for him to get the ball every time the Ravens get near the end zone.

Wide Receiver: Drew Bennett (Tennessee)
Bennett is a possession type of receiver who isn't afraid of going over the middle and last season he developed a good rapport with QB Billy Volek. Look for the two to hook often and Bennett to get close to a 1,000 yard and 5-7 TD season.

Tight End: Vernon Davis (San Francisco)
The 49ers spent their top pick on a young QB's best friend, a big pass-catching tight end. Look for Alex Smith to find Davis often this year, and while the Niner's may not put up a lot of points, Davis should get more than his share of chances to score.

Kicker: Nate Kaeding (San Diego)
With Philip Rivers taking over in San Diego this season Nate Kaeding may get a lot of field goal opportunities. Rookie QBs tend to have drives stall in the red zone, and when that happens Nate will be there to put up 3 for the Chargers.

Defense: Miami
Miami has had a solid if not spectacular defense for the past few years, and this year they may get some help on the offensive side of the ball. If Daunte Culepepper and Ronnie Brown can control the ball and give the defense a rest every once in a while, look for Zack Thomas and Jason Taylor to have big seasons.

Prospect: Reggie Bush (New Orleans)
It isn't a matter of if Reggie will make amazing plays this year, it is more a question of when. Reggie is worth a mid-to-late round pick just for the excitement factor.

RED STAR Says…



I woke the morning of my Fantasy Football draft and had one question in my head all morning. "Are you ready for some football?!" Apparently my answer was, "No." Though I knew it was coming up, I hadn't prepared as well as I usually do and unfortunately, it reflected in some of my picks. Yes, ladies and gentlemen, I am that guy this year; the guy that isn't as prepared and changes the course of YOUR picks. Being fourth in the draft was a bittersweet moment. Had I been one spot higher, the pick for a prime runningback would have been made for me. Either Larry Johnson, Shaun Alexander or L.T. would have been left at the third spot and I would have been happy with any of them. Unfortunately, my reach wasn't that high, so I decided to take a prime quarterback; Peyton Manning. Other than Peyton, I didn't see much in the quarterback pool worthy of being picked 4th in any draft. My second pick was somewhat of a panicked move. Thomas Jones? The guy can produce, but picking him 2nd when he is projected to share time with Cedric Benson, well, that was just a boneheaded move. I felt I redeemed myself in the next three picks in Larry Fitz, Willie Parker, and Santana Moss. Now that the Bus is out of gas, Parker will get the starting nod, and let's be honest folks, the kid can run. My sixth pick was somewhat of a risk. I don't usually take rookie players that high in my draft, but we're talking about Reggie Bush here. If anyone was worth an earlier-than-usual pick, it's him. Besides, I really wanted to hear the other coaches complain that I had taken him. There is a lot to be said about stealing a player under another coach's nose and throwing him off his game plan. With my remaining picks, I rounded out my team and even nabbed a back up quarterback in Daunte Culpepper and a solid wide receiver in Keenan MacCardell. I just hope my hometown heroes in San Diego can get him the ball often enough. When it was all said and done I asked myself that same question. "Are you ready for some football?!" My answer? "You bet."

Sleepers:

Quarterback: Kurt Warner (Arizona)
I will stand by my sleeper pick for last year's draft. Sure, Mr. Warner didn't quite deliver as expected but hey, everyone is entitled to a warm-up season right? Given that he still has young talents Larry Fitzgerald and Anquan Boldin waiting for him with open arms, I expect Super Bowl XXXIV MVP Kurt Warner to make a come back. It's also worth mentioning that Edge has now joined the Cardinal cast and should make this year's Cardinals look like what last year's should have.

Running Back: Steven Jackson (St. Louis)
Again, I stand by my sleeper pick for last year. Unfortunately, Steven Jackson didn't make a huge splash last year, but let's be honest; not many Rams players did and when an entire team struggles, all diamonds stay rough. Hopefully the return of their starting QB Marc Bulger will spark this team's return to being the greatest show on turf.

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RED STAR Says… (continued)



Wide Reciever: Nate Burleson (Seattle)
Burleson's move to Seattle could not have come at a better time. His previous delivery man Daunte Culpepper made a move to Miami leaving the QB situation in Minnesota tenuous. Sure, the Vikings saw a spark under Brad Johnson's throwing arm, but I doubt that will continue this season. That being said, Matt Hasselbeck should love having a long distance target in Burleson. Expect to see him in the end zone a few times this year.

Tight End: Ben Watson (New England)
We all saw flashes of greatness in New England's new tight end last year. It may have been early in the year, but the kid obviously had talent. With the diminished receiving crew in New England, Tom Brady will be maximizing his receivers as much as possible. Look for Ben Watson to make an impact.

Kicker: Lawrence Tynes (Kansas City)
Tynes is still pretty fresh, but that means his leg is still strong and capable. What I'm looking at here though, is KC's big game potential. If Larry Johnson picks up where he left off last season, the Chiefs should be in prime scoring position very often. When they do, look for Tynes to be part of the equation.

Defense: San Diego Chargers
Ok, I know I might get some heat for this one, but I'm going to go with my home town heroes the San Diego Chargers. And why not? Their rush defense was great last year, and the acquisition of Shawn "Lights Out" Merriman was an amazing boost to the defensive line. If the secondary can get things shakin', I'll be the one laughing at the rest of the league. This ***is*** why they are called sleeper picks, right?

Prospect: Reggie Bush (New Orleans)
This is it, the name that every one will be looking for this coming season. Just like LeBron James was the kid to watch during the 2003-2004 NBA season, Bush will be the kid to keep in your sights. All of his college accolades aside, he has trained with LaDainian Tomlinson and is now working with LT's former QB and good buddy, Drew Brees. Things are looking good for this guy. But the people who really benefit are New Orleans Saints fans. Let's hope he delivers, eh?

DAN Says…



I have two pieces of advice for fantasy football players preparing for their draft. First, read your league rules. Our league starts two running backs and three wide receivers so my decision last year to only draft three wide receivers total left me scrambling to get quality players off waivers and trades. Second, draft for points early, draft for position late. For each of my first four picks I choose the best point scorer available. I ended up with two top tier receivers in Steve Smith and Randy Moss and a solid starting lineup of running backs in Tiki Barber and Domanick Davis. My team last year suffered from a mediocre quarterback situation so when I saw Tom Brady and Matt Hasselbeck available in the fifth and sixth rounds I jumped at the chance of nabbing two solid, reliable quarterbacks. This formed the core of my team and for the rest of the draft I filled in the other positions and backups. I missed out on Deion Branch who would have made a great pairing with Brady, but I did manage to get Nate Burleson and Jerramy Stevens to match with Hasselbeck for NFC West games. Last year Seattle averaged over 34 points in divisional games, scoring over 30 five out of six times. Finally, I got Shayne Graham as my last pick. I don't know much about kickers, but he's got to be better than Nate Kaeding.

Sleepers:

Quarterback: Aaron Brooks (Oakland)
When Oakland goes 1-3 at the start of the season look for Al Davis to give Collin's the boot assuming he even makes it through the preseason.

Running Back: Marion Barber (Dallas)
Injury-prone Julius Jones should give up quite a few handoffs, especially on the goaline, to Barber, a favorite of Coach Parcell.

Wide Receiver: Nate Burleson (Seattle)
All healed up and in a new home, Burleson could surprise a few fantasy owners. While technically the number two receiver Hasselbeck likes to spread the ball around and six games in the NFC West doesn't hurt either.

Tight End: Ben Watson (New England)
With David Givens gone, Watson's numbers should go way up. He'll could even end up as Brady's number two receiver after Deion Branch.

Kicker: Nate Kaeding (San Diego)
This massive 187 lb former Cornhusker is also the Charger's alternate punter. Grab him early in the 17th or 18th round.

Defense: Colts
The loss of James will mean more time on the field for the Indy defense leading, hopefully, to more turnovers. The Colts ranked 3rd in turnovers last year.

Prospect: DeAngelo Williams (Carolina)
As a late round pick expect Williams to get you points late in the season when injuries and losses start adding up for the Panthers.

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JOOKIE Says...

My game plan was to grab a trio of endzone magnets with my first three picks, with the first pick belonging to a top-tiered running back. Then, depending on my draft order, secure another quality running back or take my pick of "elite" receivers. Bottom line, I wanted at least one top three player in one of the two major scoring fields (RB/WR). Since I found myself just out of reach of top three running backs at the sixth draft position, I decided to use my first pick on a running back that will get a lot of redzone attempts (Rudi Johnson), and use my second pick to take the pick-of-the-litter from the top three receivers. I chose Chad Johnson. Now normally I would not have taken or suggest taking teammates right off the bat, but considering this pair, I think I will fair ok. Rudi Johnson is a workhorse and will be relied on heavily in the beginning of the season while Carson Palmers' health is in question. In Chad Johnson, I have my flashy play-maker who will find the endzone no matter who is throwing him the ball. This guy is an animal who, if needed, could throw himself TD passes.

For my third pick I decided to take another redzone hero at the top of his position rather than pull from the diminishing list of top-rated superstars at RB and WR. Plus, for a tight end, Antonio Gates brings in numbers rivaling most of the league's top receivers. Comfortable with three of the league's very best, I turned to fleshing out my team with the best available prime time players. I took a chance by drafting Carolina's starting and back-up running back, investing in the team's abilities at the position rather than the player — rushers will post numbers in this system no matter who is carrying the football.

Knowing that this is only an 8 man league, I can almost guarantee that I will get a top-10 defense and kicker so I decided to save those picks toward the end. Instead, I focused on taking potential scorers, including an impact rookie in Santonio Holmes, and one emotion pick in Ahman Green. Go Pack Go!

Sleepers:

Quarterback: Drew Bledsoe (Houston)
I don't know if you could consider him much of a sleeper after throwing for over 3,000 yards and 23 touchdown passes last season, but for some reason he doesn't rank high on very many people's lists. Look for Bledsoe to continue to thrive in Dallas with the addition of T.O.

Running Back: Ahman Green (Green Bay)
There are plenty of well deserved questions surrounding the Packers running game, but don't count out Ahman Green just yet. Remember that this guy is just one season removed from rushing for 1000+ yards and finding the endzone 9 times. If he can bounce back from his injury, look for him to help a much needed Packer offense. Having a young gun like Samkon Gado nipping at his heels for the job will only fuel his comeback season.

Wide Reciever: Javon Walker (Denver)
Being a Packer fan, this guy is not one of my favorite people, but I would be lying if I didn't say I think he is an amazing receiver. He got hurt on the first game of the season last year, so he has had more time than most to recover. Look for him to really prove himself in Denver.

Tight End: Alex Smith (Tampa Bay)
Last year Alex Smith started with a "bang" nabbing two TDs in week 1. But after that, he kind of fizzled by simply being underutilized. Look for Tampa to get this guy more involved, especially in the endzone where his big size and good hands will benefit them most.

Kicker: Ryan Longwell (Minnesota)
Ryan Longwell is one of the highest scorers in football. He's been around a long time and can kick in all sorts of crazy conditions[EM]he comes from the frozen tundra. Now he can relax a bit and kick from the comforts of an indoor Metrodome. If Minnesota struggles near the redzone, look for Longwell to reap the benefits.

Defense: Cincinnati
By fantasy football standards, this team can score. They led the league in takeaways last year with 44, including 31 interceptions. Their sacks were a little lacking in comparison to some of the defenses rated in the top 10, but look for that to improve this season with four of their five draft picks being on defense.

Prospect: Santonio Holmes (Pittsburgh)
Look for this talented rookie to come in and be productive for Pittsburgh. With Randle El shipped off, the Steelers are in need of a number 2 receiver, and this guy could beat out Cedrick Wilson for the position. He is a speedy guy that will compliment Hines Ward nicely.

PAPPA G Says...

What a crazy draft this year. All in all, I'm not thrilled with my picks because I'm lacking two solid point getters that are a must on any quality fantasy team. My first pick (7th overall) was forced to be a running back because they were going fast and I couldn't afford to let the good ones go by. Other than Peyton Manning (already picked) I didn't feel there was a huge drop in the next few quarterbacks and that's based on thinking Carson Palmer won't be quite as solid coming off injury during the playoffs. So, I picked Clinton Portis knowing he'll continue eating up yardage as the team's only quality back and I'm hoping Joe Gibbs wants to involve him more around the goal-line this year. Next, I tried to solidify another quality, yet still unproven, running back in Steven Jackson. He should be more involved in the offense now that Mike Martz is gone. Those are two good picks, but I don't get the "warm and fuzzys" like I would is I had any of the top 3 running backs (Johnson, Tomlinson, or Alexander) or Peyton Manning. From there I had to get a quality receiver, as by the time the picks got back to me the second tier QB's were gone and the first tier WR's were going fast. Anquan Boldin was my choice; figuring even sharing time with Larry Fitzgerald isn't bad because Kurt Warner seems to like both equally. With my next few picks, I made sure I didn't bunch up on guys with the same bye weeks. Shockey was a solid pick-up in the 5th round. The "bone-head" move of the draft, I'm sad to say, was made by me picking Nate Kaeding in the 10th round

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PAPPA G Says... (continued)



as the first kicker in the draft. I meant to use the pick to get my top valued kicker, Neil Rackers. Instead I mistakenly picked my 12th ranked kicker and heard about it from "the fellas" for the rest of the draft.

Sleepers:

Quarterback: Aaron Brooks (Oakland)
Come on, he's got Randy Moss and Jerry Porter! I know, so did Kerry Collins, but he couldn't get out of his own way when the rush came. Aaron can move in the pocket if needed, loves the deep ball (so does Moss), and the coaches are rumored to be implementing the vertical offense.

Running Back: Ronnie Brown (Miami)
He's all alone, and that's a good thing. Ricky Williams was a stud that stole attempts from this talented back, but now that he's gone to Canada, Bangledesh, Amsterdam... wherever, Brown will get his chance. New offensive Mike Mularkey helped produce solid running games in Pittsburgh and most recently Buffalo taking Willis McGahee to new heights.

Wide Receiver: Deion Branch (New England)
Tom Brady's turning out to be the next Joe Montana and the beneficiary this year will be all Deion. David Givens jumped ship and even though Tom spreads it around, it'll be easier to find his favorite target now.

Tight End: Zach Hilton (New Orleans)
Think about it... Drew Brees. He turned Antonio Gates into a superstar in San Diego, but now he's a Saint, especially to Zach. I hope Zach put his leather boots on because he's about to go to work.

Kicker: Nate Kaeding (San Diego)
You KNEW I was going to say that. I made him the first overall kicker taken in our draft, so I've got to back up my boy. La Danian Tomlinson will do all the hard work, but the rookie quarterback, Phillip Rivers, may have to lean on Nate to kick in 3 points. Good karma, Nate!

Defense: Washington
They've got two of the best cover corners in the league, Carlos Rogers and Shawn Springs, with safety Sean Taylor backing them up. What quarterback wants to throw into that coverage? Linebacker Marcus Washington will tackle anyone getting past Phillip Daniels or Andre Carter.

Prospect: Cedric Benson (Chicago)
Thomas Jones can't last a full season and he's off to a bad start by threatening to hold out. Rumors were that before the hold-out controversy "Da Bears" were looking to move last years 1st round pick into the starting role.

MACSTER Says...



Picking last has some advantages with two concurrent picks so with the usual suspects going first (L.T., Peyton, and Alexander) I took Edge with my first pick, with hopes he will fit into what is looking to be a high powered offense in the valley of the sun. Checking off my premiere RB, I turned to getting a decent QB, Carson Palmer. This pick is a bit of a gamble after his knee injury in the playoffs, but I feel the reward is worth the risk. I picked up the younger Manning brother as an insurance policy a few rounds later, if Palmer doesn't work out. From there I went on to try and fill my roster with some solid picks, not necessarily huge names, but players that may produce decent numbers week to week.

Sleepers:

Quarterback: Aaron Brooks (Oakland)
Brooks will have quality receiving with Moss, Porter and Curry plus a deep threat with Gabriel to stretch the secondary. Moss will be looking to rebound from a sub par season last year. And if Art Shell can work some magic with an underachieving offensive line, Brooks may have the time he needs to make the right decisions.

Running Back: Samkon Gado (Green Bay)
If healthy Gado will be a nice compliment to Ahman Greene. 500 plus yards and six touchdowns in 8 games last year with Green Bay, he was a pleasant surprise in a otherwise forgettable year for the Pack. Ahman Greene has had trouble staying healthy so Gado may get plenty of touches.

Wide Receiver: Nate Burleson (Seattle)
A legitimate threat when he lined up opposite of Moss a couple years ago, Burleson had an off year last season, cut short by injuries. With a fresh start comes a fresh attitude and he'll need it. Seattle will be spreading the ball thin, but look for Nate to get some quality passes from Hasselbeck. His good hands warrant him a look.

Tight End: Courtney Anderson (Oakland)
This big bodied TE will be looking to break-out this year in an offense that will be spraying the ball around field in an effort to outscore their opponents. Aaron Brooks may look to Anderson's big frame (6'-7", 270) for catches around the endzone. He has been injury prone the past two seasons, but may be worth a late round pick.

Kicker: Josh Scobee (Jacksonville)
A young kicker with potential on a team with an offense that needs some pep. Jacksonville has a decent defense so he may get opportunities to stretch that leg.

Defense: Arizona
Last year's team was decimated by injuries after a surprising 2004. The Cards made some key pick-ups on the defensive line to help Chike Okeafor and Berry get some space. They have a physical secondary that will beat up on opposing wideouts. Playing in the NFC west and playing the AFC West, will help this defense's chances at scoring you some points with a late draft pick.

Prospect: Reggie Bush (New Orleans)
Easy pick I know, but the upside may be huge. Duece has been fragile the past few years and the Saints may look to cash in on their new star. He's a risk to pick up, but may pay out in the end.

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MINI-GAMES

We are going to let you in on a secret that only the top players know. Mini-Games are the number-one key to improving your game play. Each drill works on a different skill set, so make sure to spend a good amount of time with each one. These are also great to use as a pre-game warmup before you go online to play.





DL TRENCH FIGHT

Challenge	Team	Player	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Notes
Rookie	Houston	Weaver	7	8	9	3 checkpoints
Pro	Atlanta	Abraham	9.75	11.75	14	4 checkpoints
All-Pro	Indianapolis	Freeney	17.5	20.5	24	5 checkpoints
All-Madden	NY Giants	Strahan	22.5	26	30	6 checkpoints

Advance down the field, defeating blocks to grab a series of flags as quickly as possible.

Technique

• In this drill you'll be trying to win the battle in the trenches as you navigate a series of offensive linemen to reach flags. You've got three moves: the shove, the rip, and the spin.

• We like to use the shove to get our guy moving backward and then ripping to blow past. In the early levels you can sprint right past the blocker much of the time. As you get to All-Madden level, you need to use more fakes to get past the defenders.

POSITIONS

Rookie: 1 OL each
Pro: 1 OL, 1 OL, 1 OL, 1 OL
All-Pro: 2 OL, 1 OL, 2 OL+1 RB, 1 OL, 2 OL
All-Madden: OL, 3 OL, 1 OL+1 RB, 1 OL+1 RB, 3 OL, 1 OL

RB GROUND ATTACK

Challenge	Team	Player	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Notes
Rookie	Chiefs	Holmes	800	1400	2100	2 defenders
Pro	Redskins	Portis	750	1300	1900	3 defenders
All-Pro	Chargers	Tomlinson	700	1100	1500	3 defenders
All-Madden	Ravens	Lewis	600	900	1200	4 defenders



It sounds simple, and it is. Take the ball and run with it. Use any blockers, the blocking dummies, and every special move you've got to make the most of each carry.



Technique

• You see the designed route for the play right before the snap. You are usually better off following your fullback in the beginning and then making a move once he engages. If he misses his block, be prepared to use the blocking dummies to get free.

• Once your fullback has taken care of a man, the rest of the play hinges on your ability to size up angles, use the special moves, and generally show off your "stick skills." Stiff-arm works for defenders coming at you from the side, while juke is best in a head-on situation with the defender right in front of you. The spin is a great move if a guy or two is beating you to a spot. Don't neglect the Highlight stick if you have a bigger back going up against a small defender.



SCORING

+ 10 points per yard gained
- 20 point penalty per yard lost
+ 30 point bonus for each touchdown
- *Online only:* 100-point penalty for each fumble
+ *Online only:* 100-point penalty for each tackle broken

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DB SWAT BALL

Challenge	Team	Player	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Notes
Rookie	Bills	Clements	300	600	900	3 targets
Pro	Texans	Robinson	300	575	800	4 targets
All-Pro	Broncos	Bailey	300	525	725	5 targets
All-Madden	Dolphins	Madison	300	500	600	5 targets







A passing machine fires 20 balls at one of several stationary targets, indicating the target just before the release. Your job is to knock down—or preferably, intercept—as many as possible.

Technique

• To succeed at this drill, you have to be good with your speed burst, strafe, and catch buttons. Speed burst toward the target and then hit the strafe button as you get into position. Once you have squared your shoulders to the ball, it is much easier to pick up the interception. Even if you miss the catch, you at least get the swat.

• Use the swat button only on passes that seem to be out of reach or are directly over your shoulder. These types of catches are very difficult for DBs, and the swat is the way to go.

• After each pass, try to get back into the center of the screen as quickly as possible. This puts you in position to get to as many of the targets as possible.

SCORING

+ 10 points for the first pass defended
+ 20 points for the second pass defended (consecutively)
+ 30 points for the third pass defended (consecutively)
+ 40 points for the fourth and all subsequent passes defended
+ Double points for an interception







COFFIN CORNER

Challenge	Team	Player	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Notes
Rookie	Browns	Frost	250	650	900	-
Pro	Saints	Berger	250	600	800	-
All-Pro	Jaguars	Hanson	250	500	700	-
All-Madden	Cardinals	Player	250	375	500	-

Pin the imaginary opponent deep by landing six punts in either corner of the field.

Technique

• This is one of the simplest Mini-Games to perform. Just kick the ball toward either corner and work on your touch to score max points. The new kicking meter makes this drill much more important than it has been in the past.

• Repetition and learning the physics of power and the wind factor are the keys here. Practice enough, and soon you'll feel like you're just throwing darts out there (well, except that you're kicking footballs).

• Kick the ball with a lower trajectory to negate the effects of the wind. You will want to spend quality time with the drill in *Madden NFL 07* so that the new kicking system becomes second nature to you.

SCORING

+ 50 points for the landing in the yellow area
+ 100 points for the landing in the orange area
+ 200 points for the landing in the red area

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CLUTCH KICKING

Challenge	Team	Player	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Notes
Rookie	Lions	Hanson	900	1500	2200	-
Pro	Dolphins	Mare	900	1500	2200	-
All-Pro	Raiders	Janikowski	900	1500	2100	-
All-Madden	Eagles	Akers	900	1500	2100	-



You are on the clock as you try to hit as many field goals as possible in one minute. Hit the center to maximize your points.

Technique

• With the new kicking meter, it's going to take some reps to get comfortable with your kicking game. This drill puts you under pressure and moves you all over the field as you go for three pointers. Remember to check the wind and adjust for the hash marks when firing at your target.

• As in the punt drill, try reducing the loft on your kicks. Real kickers would never do this because of the risk of the kick being blocked, but that's not a concern here. Lower kicks mean less wind effect. Lower kicks travel faster, and will allow you to get off more kicks than if you boom big floaters out there.



SCORING

+ 75 points for hitting the yellow area
+ 150 points for hitting the orange area
+ 300 points for hitting the red area

CHASE AND TACKLE

Challenge	Team	Player	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Notes
Rookie	Ravens	Lewis	800	1475	2000	-
Pro	Steelers	Porter	1000	1725	2250	-
All-Pro	Panthers	Morgan	650	1100	1500	-
All-Madden	Bears	Urlacher	650	1100	1500	-



Take control of a defender and stop the running back in his tracks.

Technique

• You want to avoid contact with the blockers to make the stop. The sweep plays are the easiest to defend. Get out in front of the blocking, but watch out for the cutback move.

• The best strategy involves waiting for the fullback to hit the line of scrimmage while you track the ball carrier. You can also try to shoot the gap right after the snap. Sometimes you'll rack up fumble bonuses because you'll disrupt the handoff. It's risky, because if you whiff you could give up a big play and get hit with a TD penalty.

• The CPU tests your pursuit with spins and jukes. Every time you think you've got them beat to the corner; he'll cut back against the grain. Pursue gradually and with a careful angle to avoid getting burned. User your hit stick when possible to try to create fumbles.





SCORING

+ 10 points for each yard the RB is stopped short of the end zone, if the computer-controlled player makes the tackle
+ 20 points for each yard the RB is stopped short of the end zone, if the user-controlled player makes the tackle
+ 100-point bonus for forcing a fumble
- 250-point penalty for allowing a touchdown

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POCKET PRESENCE

Challenge	Team	Player	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Notes
Rookie	Falcons	Vick	900	1200	1400	-
Pro	Vikings	Culpepper	800	1100	1325	-
All-Pro	Packers	Farve	600	850	1100	-
All-Madden	Titans	McNair	450	675	950	-







This is another drill that will really improve your playing if you spend the time working on your skills. You need to move around in the pocket and complete passes to rack up points.

Technique

• This drill is all about "feeling the rush" while looking downfield. It really forces you to have top-notch situational awareness. Just like a real quarterback, you can't be focused on what's right in front of you, or you'll never throw to the right guy. Try to pick up on the yellow tennis balls and where they're coming from, but always be watching to see what target icon has popped up.

• Stay in the target area as much as possible. You will be notified if you drift too far out of play. If you fail to get back in the zone, the drill ends. Make small movements in the pocket.

SCORING

- **+ 25 points** for the first target hit in succession
- **+ 50 points** for the second target hit in succession
- **+ 75 points** for the third target hit in succession
- **+ 100 points** for the fourth and all subsequent targets hit in succession
- **- 10-point penalty** for throwing to the wrong target
- **- 10-point penalty** for throwing to any target when none is indicated
- **- 10-point penalty** for being hit by a tennis ball
- **- Variable penalty** for leaving the pocket







PRECISION PASSING

Challenge	Team	Player	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Notes
Rookie	Giants	Manning	500	750	1000	-
Pro	Seahawks	Hasselback	500	750	1000	-
All-Pro	Patriots	Brady	500	750	1000	-
All-Madden	Colts	Manning	500	750	1000	-

Throw at the right moment/trajectory so your pass goes through the ring and to the receiver.

Technique

• This drill simulates throwing through passing lanes. Usually there's only a small window to get the ball by the defense, and the rings simulate that window. Timing and how hard you throw the pass are the keys to performing well here. On the comebacks, ins, and outs, try throwing more of a bullet just as the receiver is making his break. The slants and posts are easy—just throw it a couple of steps before the receiver reaches the ring.

• Be sure to use the vision cone to maximize your accuracy. You can lock on to the routes pre-snap so that you can just concentrate on your timing once the drill starts. Deep routes require more loft on the ball. Also control the receivers and make the user catch for maximum points.

SCORING

- **+ 25 points** for throwing the ball through a bronze-colored ring
- **+ 50 points** for throwing the ball through a silver-colored ring
- **+ 75 points** for throwing the ball through a gold-colored ring
- **+ 20 point bonus** if the receiver catches the ball
- **+ Bonus** for user controlled receptions
- **+ Bonus** for catch and turn-controlled receptions

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MADDEN CARDS

Madden Challenge Tasks

This chapter includes all the information you need to keep track of your *Madden* Card book. From the *Madden* Challenge tasks to your player checklist and special cards, we've got you covered. See which ones you want to go after and target those tasks first. Good luck!

TOKEN SCALE

Challenge	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Rookie	2	3	4	5	6
Pro	4	6	8	10	12
All-Pro	6	9	12	15	18
All-Madden	8	12	16	20	24

1 LEVEL 1

Challenge Description

- Make a field goal of **40** yards or more
- Punt the ball **50** yards or more
- Hold CPU under **7** points (min qtr: 4)
- Score **21** points in a game (max qtr: 6)
- One reception by **3** different players
- Recover a fumble on defense
- Sack the opposing QB
- Throw **2** TD passes with one player
- Gain **200** yards of total offense (max qtr: 6)
- Break a **20**-yard run
- Complete **5** consecutive passes
- Complete a **30**-yard pass
- No dropped passes all game (min qtr: 4)
- No offensive fumbles all game (min qtr: 4)
- No interceptions thrown all game (min qtr: 4)
- No sacks allowed all game (min qtr: 4)
- Score **35** pts. on the Panthers at Carolina (max qtr: 6)
- Hold Patriots to **21** pts. in New England (min qtr: 5)
- Intercept a pass on defense
- Record **3** tackles with one player

2 LEVEL 2

Challenge Description

- **30**-yard PR avg. for one player (min ret: 2)
- Defeat the CPU by **28** points (max qtr: 6)
- Gain **100** receiving yards with one player
- **20**-yard rec avg. for one player (min rec: 3)
- Throw for **300** yards with one player
- Complete **80%** of your passes (min att: 5)
- Commit no penalties in a game (min qtr: 4)
- Record **2** sacks with one player
- Record **5** tackles with two different players
- **30**-yard KR avg. for one player (min ret: 2)
- Score **42** points in a game (max qtr: 6)
- **10**-yard rush avg. for one player (min att: 5)
- Catch **2** TD passes with one player
- Score **3** rushing TDs with one player
- Throw **4** TD passes with one player
- Complete **10** consecutive passes
- Defeat the '90 Giants with a regular team
- Force **3** turnovers in one game on defense
- Hold CPU under **150** total off. yds. (min qtr: 4)
- Gain **100** rushing yards with one player

3 LEVEL 3

Challenge Description

- Punt the ball out of bounds inside the **5**-yard line
- Shut out the CPU (min qtr: 4)
- **10** rushing attempts by 2 different players
- Gain **150** receiving yards with one player
- Gain **400** yards of total offense (max qtr: 6)
- Complete **15** consecutive passes
- Gain **450** yards of total offense against the Eagles
- Recover **2** fumbles on defense with one player
- Record **3** sacks with one player
- Record **8** tackles with one player
- Kick and recover an onside kick
- Score **63** points in a game (max qtr: 6)
- Make **10** receptions with one player
- Gain **100** rushing & **50** rec. yds. w/one player
- Gain **150** rushing yards with one player
- Break a **40**-yard run
- Complete a **60**-yard pass
- Gain **150** rushing yds. vs. '75 Vikings (max qtr: 6)
- Intercept **2** passes with one player
- Deflect **4** passes with one player

4 LEVEL 4

Challenge Description

- Make a field goal of **50** yards or more
- Make **6** two-point conversions in one game
- Gain **100** rushing yds. with **2** different players
- Gain **200** receiving yards with one player
- Complete **25** passes with one player
- Throw for **500** yards with one player
- Achieve **20** first downs (max qtr: 6)
- Return a fumble for a touchdown on defense
- Cause **6** turnovers on defense
- Record a safety on defense
- Punt the ball **65** yards or more
- Defeat the CPU by **56** points (max qtr: 6)
- Gain **100** receiving yds. with two different players
- Gain **200** rushing yards with one player
- **40** rushing att. by one player (max qtr: 6)
- Gain **650** yards of total offense (max qtr: 6)
- Complete a pass to **7** different receivers
- Break a **60**-yard run
- Record **7** sacks with one player
- Return an interception for a touchdown

5 LEVEL 5

Challenge Description

- Gain **200** PR yards with one player
- Return a punt for a touchdown
- Complete **100%** of your passes (min att: 5)
- Gain **100** rushing & **100** passing yards with one player
- **20**-yard rush avg. for one player (min att: 3)
- Gain **250** rushing yards with one player
- Break an **80**-yard run
- Play injured and score a touchdown
- Intercept **5** passes on defense
- Record **2** safeties in one game
- Gain **200** KR yards with one player
- Return a kickoff for a touchdown
- Score **84** points in a game (max qtr: 6)
- Gain **100** receiving yards with three different players
- Gain **100** rushing & **150** passing yards with one player
- Gain **200** passing yards with two different players
- Break **10** tackles with one player
- Complete **20** consecutive passes
- Complete a **90**-yard pass
- Hold CPU to zero total offensive yards (min qtr: 4)



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MADDEN CARD CHECKLIST

Note: Each card in *Madden NFL 07* is listed on the following pages, and the variations (bronze, silver, gold) for each player/coach are explained in the lists below.

Player Card

Bronze: Playing this card gives a 25% ratings boost for one play.
Silver: Playing this card gives a 25% ratings boost until the end of the current quarter.
Gold: Playing this card gives a 25% ratings boost until the end of the current half.

Coach Card

Bronze: When this card is played, it will boost the awareness of your team for one play.
Silver: When this card is played, it will boost the awareness of your team until the end of the current quarter.
Gold: When this card is played, it will boost the awareness of your team until the end of the current half.

Player Checklist

The Player Checklist spans *Madden* Cards 1-155.

	Card	Name
❒	1	Rex Grossman
❒	2	Olin Kreutz
❒	3	Tommie Harris
❒	4	Brian Urlacher
❒	5	Lance Briggs
❒	6	Nathan Vasher
❒	7	Carson Palmer
❒	8	Rudi Johnson
❒	9	Chad Johnson
❒	10	TJ Houshmandzadeh
❒	11	David Pollack
❒	12	Odell Thurman
❒	13	Deltha O'Neal
❒	14	Willis McGahee
❒	15	London Fletcher
❒	16	Takeo Spikes
❒	17	Nate Clements
❒	18	Jake Plummer
❒	19	Tatum Bell
❒	20	Al Wilson
❒	21	Champ Bailey
❒	22	John Lynch
❒	23	Charlie Frye
❒	24	Reuben Droughns
❒	25	Braylon Edwards
❒	26	Andra Davis
❒	27	Carnell Williams
❒	28	Joey Galloway
❒	29	Simeon Rice
❒	30	Derrick Brooks
❒	31	Ronde Barber
❒	32	Kurt Warner
❒	33	Anquan Boldin
❒	34	Larry Fitzgerald
❒	35	Bertrand Berry
❒	36	LaDainian Tomlinson
❒	37	Keenan McCardell
❒	38	Antonio Gates
❒	39	Shawne Merriman
❒	40	Trent Green
❒	41	Larry Johnson
❒	42	Tony Gonzalez
❒	43	Willie Roaf
❒	44	Derrick Johnson
❒	45	Peyton Manning
❒	46	Marvin Harrison
❒	47	Reggie Wayne
❒	48	Dwight Freeney
❒	49	Cato June
❒	50	Drew Bledsoe
❒	51	Terry Glenn
❒	52	Jason Witten
❒	53	DeMarcus Ware
❒	54	Roy Williams
❒	55	Daunte Culpepper
❒	56	Chris Chambers
❒	57	Randy McMichael
❒	58	Jason Taylor
❒	59	Zach Thomas
❒	60	Donovan McNabb
❒	61	Brian Westbrook
❒	62	Jevon Kearse
❒	63	Jeremiah Trotter
❒	64	Brian Dawkins
❒	65	Michael Vick
❒	66	Warrick Dunn
❒	67	Alge Crumpler
❒	68	Keith Brooking
❒	69	DeAngelo Hall
❒	70	Alex Smith
❒	71	Kwame Harris
❒	72	Bryant Young
❒	73	Derek Smith
❒	74	Eli Manning
❒	75	Tiki Barber
❒	76	Plaxico Burress
❒	77	Jeremy Shockey
❒	78	Michael Strahan
❒	79	Osi Umenyiora
❒	80	Byron Leftwich
❒	81	Fred Taylor
❒	82	John Henderson
❒	83	Marcus Stroud
❒	84	Rashean Mathis
❒	85	Curtis Martin
❒	86	Laveranues Coles
❒	87	Justin McCareins
❒	88	Jonathan Vilma
❒	89	Kevin Jones
❒	90	Roy Williams
❒	91	Kalimba Edwards
❒	92	Shaun Rogers
❒	93	Brett Favre
❒	94	Samkon Gado
❒	95	Nick Barnett
❒	96	Jake Delhomme
❒	97	DeShaun Foster
❒	98	Steve Smith
❒	99	Mike Wahle
❒	100	Julius Peppers
❒	101	Chris Gamble
❒	102	Tom Brady
❒	103	Corey Dillon
❒	104	Deion Branch
❒	105	Richard Seymour
❒	106	Tedy Bruschi
❒	107	Rodney Harrison
❒	108	LaMont Jordan
❒	109	Jerry Porter
❒	110	Randy Moss
❒	111	Derrick Burgess
❒	112	Marc Bulger
❒	113	Steven Jackson
❒	114	Torry Holt
❒	115	Isaac Bruce
❒	116	Orlando Pace
❒	117	Jonathan Ogden
❒	118	Terrell Suggs
❒	119	Ray Lewis
❒	120	Chris McAlister
❒	121	Ed Reed
❒	122	Clinton Portis
❒	123	Santana Moss
❒	124	Chris Cooley
❒	125	Chris Samuels
❒	126	Deuce McAllister
❒	127	Donte Stallworth
❒	128	Joe Horn
❒	129	Dwight Smith
❒	130	Matt Hasselbeck
❒	131	Shaun Alexander
❒	132	Jerramy Stevens
❒	133	Walter Jones
❒	134	Lofa Tatupu
❒	135	Michael Boulware
❒	136	Ben Roethlisberger
❒	137	Willie Parker
❒	138	Hines Ward
❒	139	Heath Miller
❒	140	Alan Faneca
❒	141	Troy Polamalu

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	Card	Name
❒	142	David Carr
❒	143	Domanick Davis
❒	144	Andre Johnson
❒	145	Dunta Robinson
❒	146	Drew Bennett
❒	147	Chris Brown
❒	148	Brandon Jones
❒	149	Kyle Vanden Bosch
❒	150	Keith Bulluck
❒	151	Travis Taylor
❒	152	Jermaine Wiggins
❒	153	Antoine Winfield
❒	154	Darren Sharper
❒	187	Donald Driver

Coach Checklist

The Coach Checklist spans *Madden* Cards 156-186.

	Card	Coach	Name
❒	155	Bears	Lovie Smith
❒	156	Bengals	Marvin Lewis
❒	157	Bills	Dick Jauron
❒	158	Broncos	Mike Shanahan
❒	159	Browns	Romeo Crennel
❒	160	Bucs	Jon Gruden
❒	161	Cardinals	Dennis Green
❒	162	Chargers	Marty Schottenheimer
❒	163	Chiefs	Herm Edwards
❒	164	Colts	Tony Dungy
❒	165	Cowboys	Dallas Coach
❒	166	Dolphins	Nick Saban
❒	167	Eagles	Andy Reid
❒	168	Falcons	Jim Mora Jr.
❒	169	49ers	Mike Nolan
❒	170	Giants	Tom Coughlin

	Card	Coach	Name
❒	171	Jaguars	Jack Del Rio
❒	172	Jets	Eric Mangini
❒	173	Lions	Rod Marinelli
❒	174	Packers	Mike McCarthy
❒	175	Panthers	John Fox
❒	176	Patriots	NE Coach
❒	177	Raiders	Art Shell
❒	178	Rams	Scott Linehan
❒	179	Ravens	Brian Billick
❒	180	Redskins	Joe Gibbs
❒	181	Saints	Sean Payton
❒	182	Seahawks	Mike Holmgren
❒	183	Steelers	Bill Cowher
❒	184	Texans	Gary Kubiak
❒	185	Titans	Jeff Fisher
❒	186	Vikings	Brad Childress

Special Checklist

The Special Checklist spans *Madden* Cards 188-281.

	Card	Type	Name	Variation	Description
❒	188	Cheat	1st and 15	Bronze	Requires your opponent to get 15 yards to reach a first down for one drive.
❒	188	Cheat	1st and 15	Silver	Requires your opponent to get 15 yards to reach a first down for the quarter.
❒	188	Cheat	1st and 15	Gold	Requires your opponent to get 15 yards to reach a first down for the half.
❒	189	Cheat	1st and 5	Bronze	When played: Your remaining yards for first down will be set to 5 for one play.
❒	189	Cheat	1st and 5	Silver	Your remaining yards for first down will be set to 5 for the quarter.
❒	189	Cheat	1st and 5	Gold	When played: Your remaining yards for first down will be set to 5 for the half.
❒	190	Cheat	Unforced	Bronze	When played: Your opponent will fumble every time he tries to juke for 1 play.
❒	190	Cheat	Unforced	Silver	When played: Your opponent will fumble every time he jukes during the quarter.
❒	190	Cheat	Unforced	Gold	When played: Your opponent will fumble every time he tries to juke for the half.
❒	191	Cheat	Extra Credit	Bronze	Awards 2 points for every interception and 1 point for every sack.
❒	191	Cheat	Extra Credit	Silver	Awards 3 points for every interception and 2 points for every sack.
❒	191	Cheat	Extra Credit	Gold	Awards 4 points for every interception and 3 points for every sack.
❒	192	Cheat	Tight Fit	Bronze	When played: Your opponent's uprights will be made very narrow for 1 play.
❒	192	Cheat	Tight Fit	Silver	When played: Your opponent's uprights will be made very narrow for the quarter.
❒	192	Cheat	Tight Fit	Gold	When played: Your opponent's uprights will be made very narrow for the half.
❒	193	Cheat	5th Down	Bronze	When played: You will get 5 downs to make a first (one use).
❒	193	Cheat	5th Down	Silver	When played: You will get 5 downs to make a first for the quarter.
❒	193	Cheat	5th Down	Gold	When played: You will get 5 downs to make a first for the half.
❒	194	Cheat	3rd Down	Bronze	When played: Your opponent will only get 3 downs to make a first.
❒	194	Cheat	3rd Down	Silver	When played: Your opponent will only get 3 downs to make a first for the quarter.
❒	194	Cheat	3rd Down	Gold	When played: Your opponent will only get 3 downs to make a first for the half.
❒	195	Cheat	Human Plow	Bronze	When played: Your broken tackles will increase by 25% for the game.
❒	195	Cheat	Human Plow	Silver	When played: Your broken tackles will increase by 50% for the game.
❒	195	Cheat	Human Plow	Gold	When played: Your broken tackles will increase by 75% for the game.
❒	196	Cheat	Super Dive	Bronze	When played: Your diving distance increases by 25% for the game.
❒	196	Cheat	Super Dive	Silver	When played: Your diving distance increases by 50% for the game.
❒	196	Cheat	Super Dive	Gold	When played: Your diving distance increases by 75% for the game.
❒	197	Cheat	Da Boot	Bronze	When played: You will receive unlimited field goal range for 1 play.
❒	197	Cheat	Da Boot	Silver	When played: You will receive unlimited field goal range for the quarter.
❒	197	Cheat	Da Boot	Gold	When played: You will receive unlimited field goal range for the half.
❒	198	Cheat	Da Bomb	Bronze	When played: You will receive unlimited pass range for 1 play.
❒	198	Cheat	Da Bomb	Silver	When played: You will receive unlimited pass range for the quarter.
❒	198	Cheat	Da Bomb	Gold	When played: You will receive unlimited pass range for the half.
❒	199	Cheat	Lame Duck	Bronze	When played: Your opponent will throw a lob pass for 1 play.
❒	199	Cheat	Lame Duck	Silver	When played: Your opponent will throw lob passes for the quarter.
❒	199	Cheat	Lame Duck	Gold	When played: Your opponent will throw lob passes for the half.
❒	200	Cheat	Mistake Free	Bronze	When played: You can't fumble or throw an interception for 1 play.

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	Card	Type	Name	Variation	Description
❒	200	Cheat	Mistake Free	Silver	When played: You can't fumble or throw an interception for the quarter.
❒	200	Cheat	Mistake Free	Gold	When played: You can't fumble or throw an interception for the half.
❒	201	Cheat	Fumblitis	Bronze	When played: Your opponent's fumbles will increase by 25% for the game.
❒	201	Cheat	Fumblitis	Silver	When played: Your opponent's fumbles will increase by 50% for the game.
❒	201	Cheat	Fumblitis	Gold	When played: Your opponent's fumbles will increase by 75% for the game.
❒	202	Cheat	BINGO!	Bronze	When played: Your defensive interceptions will increase by 25% for the game.
❒	202	Cheat	BINGO!	Silver	When played: Your defensive interceptions will increase by 50% for the game.
❒	202	Cheat	BINGO!	Gold	When played: Your defensive interceptions will increase by 75% for the game.
❒	203	Cheat	Mr. Mobility	Bronze	When played: Your QB can't be sacked for 1 play.
❒	203	Cheat	Mr. Mobility	Silver	When played: Your QB can't be sacked for the quarter.
❒	203	Cheat	Mr. Mobility	Gold	When played: Your QB can't be sacked for the half.
❒	204	Cheat	Touchy	Bronze	When played: Your opponent's penalties will increase by 50% for 1 play.
❒	204	Cheat	Touchy	Silver	When played: Your opponent's penalties will increase by 50% for the quarter.
❒	204	Cheat	Touchy	Gold	When played: Your opponent's penalties will increase by 50% for the half.
❒	205	Cheat	Bad Spot	Bronze	When played: The ref will spot the ball 1-2 yards short for 1 play.
❒	205	Cheat	Bad Spot	Silver	When played: The ref will spot the ball 1-2 yards short for the quarter.
❒	205	Cheat	Bad Spot	Gold	When played: The ref will spot the ball 1-2 yards short for the half.
❒	206	Cheat	Toast	Bronze	When played: Your ability to burn a DB will increase by 25% for the game.
❒	206	Cheat	Toast	Silver	When played: Your ability to burn a DB will increase by 50% for the game.
❒	206	Cheat	Toast	Gold	When played: Your ability to burn a DB will increase by 75% for the game.
❒	207	Cheat	Jam	Bronze	When played: Your ability to jam a WR will increase by 25% for the game.
❒	207	Cheat	Jam	Silver	When played: Your ability to jam a WR will increase by 50% for the game.
❒	207	Cheat	Jam	Gold	When played: Your ability to jam a WR will increase by 75% for the game.
❒	208	Cheat	Pocket Protect	Bronze	When played: Your pass blocking effectiveness will increase by 25% for the game.
❒	208	Cheat	Pocket Protect	Silver	When played: Your pass blocking effectiveness will increase by 50% for the game.
❒	208	Cheat	Pocket Protect	Gold	When played: Your pass blocking effectiveness will increase by 75% for the game.
❒	209	Cheat	Penetration	Bronze	When played: Your line penetration will increase by 25% for the game.
❒	209	Cheat	Penetration	Silver	When played: Your line penetration will increase by 50% for the game.
❒	209	Cheat	Penetration	Gold	When played: Your line penetration will increase by 75% for the game.
❒	210	Cheat	QB On Target	Bronze	When played: Your QB Accuracy will be 100% for 1 play.
❒	210	Cheat	QB On Target	Silver	When played: Your QB Accuracy will be 100% for the quarter.
❒	210	Cheat	QB On Target	Gold	When played: Your QB Accuracy will be 100% for the half.
❒	211	Cheat	Coffin Corner	Bronze	When played: Your punt will go out of bounds at the max distance for 1 play.
❒	211	Cheat	Coffin Corner	Silver	When played: Your punt will go out of bounds at the max distance for the quarter.
❒	211	Cheat	Coffin Corner	Gold	When played: Your punt will go out of bounds at the max distance for the half.
❒	212	Cheat	Wind Gust	Bronze	When played: Field goal kicks will receive a gust in your favor for 1 play.
❒	212	Cheat	Wind Gust	Silver	When played: Field goal kicks will receive a gust in your favor for the quarter.
❒	212	Cheat	Wind Gust	Gold	When played: Field goal kicks will receive a gust in your favor for the half.
❒	213	Cheat	Hands of Glue	Bronze	When played: Your catching ability will increase by 25% for the game.
❒	213	Cheat	Hands of Glue	Silver	When played: Your catching ability will increase by 50% for the game.
❒	213	Cheat	Hands of Glue	Gold	When played: Your catching ability will increase by 75% for the game.
❒	214	Cheat	Hands of Stone	Bronze	When played: Your opponent's catching ability will decrease by 25% for the game.
❒	214	Cheat	Hands of Stone	Silver	When played: Your opponent's catching ability will decrease by 50% for the game.
❒	214	Cheat	Hands of Stone	Gold	When played: Your opponent's catching ability will decrease by 75% for the game.
❒	215	Cheat	Couch Potato	Bronze	When played: Your opponent's fatigue will increase by 25% for the game.
❒	215	Cheat	Couch Potato	Silver	When played: Your opponent's fatigue will increase by 50% for the game.
❒	215	Cheat	Couch Potato	Gold	When played: Your opponent's fatigue will increase by 75% for the game.
❒	216	Cheat	Time Out	Bronze	When played: You will get unlimited timeouts for the current quarter.
❒	216	Cheat	Time Out	Silver	When played: You will get unlimited timeouts for the current half.
❒	216	Cheat	Time Out	Gold	When played: You will get unlimited timeouts for the current game.
❒	217	Cheat	Ouch!	Bronze	When played: Your opponent's injuries will increase by 25% for the game.
❒	217	Cheat	Ouch!	Silver	When played: Your opponent's injuries will increase by 50% for the game.
❒	217	Cheat	Ouch!	Gold	When played: Your opponent's injuries will increase by 75% for the game.
❒	218	Cheat	Worker's Comp	Bronze	Awards points (based on severity) whenever a player gets injured this quarter.
❒	218	Cheat	Worker's Comp	Silver	Awards points (based on severity) whenever a player gets injured this half.
❒	218	Cheat	Worker's Comp	Gold	Awards points (based on severity) whenever a player gets injured this game.
❒	219	Cheat	Passerby	Bronze	When played: Your QB can throw past the line of scrimmage for 1 play.
❒	219	Cheat	Passerby	Silver	When played: Your QB can throw past the line of scrimmage for the quarter.
❒	219	Cheat	Passerby	Gold	When played: Your QB can throw past the line of scrimmage for the half.
❒	220	Stadium	Super Bowl XLI	Gold	When obtained: The Super Bowl XXXIX stadium will be unlocked at Stadium Select.
❒	221	Stadium	Super Bowl XLII	Gold	When obtained: The Super Bowl XL stadium will be unlocked at Stadium Select.
❒	222	Stadium	Super Bowl XLIII	Gold	When obtained: The Super Bowl XLI stadium will be unlocked at Stadium Select.
❒	223	Stadium	Super Bowl XLIV	Gold	When obtained: The Super Bowl XLIII stadium will be unlocked at Stadium Select.
❒	224	Stadium	Aloha Stadium	Gold	When obtained: Aloha Stadium (Pro Bowl) will be unlocked at Stadium Select.

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Special Checklist

The Special Checklist spans *Madden* Cards 188-283 (continued).

	Card	Type	Name	Variation	Description
❒	225	Team	'58 Colts	Gold	When obtained: The '58 Colts will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	226	Team	'66 Packers	Gold	When obtained: The '66 Packers will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	227	Team	'68 Jets	Gold	When obtained: The '68 Jets will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	228	Team	'70 Browns	Gold	When obtained: The '70 Browns will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	229	Team	'72 Dolphins	Gold	When obtained: The '72 Dolphins will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	230	Team	'74 Steelers	Gold	When obtained: The '74 Steelers will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	231	Team	'76 Raidres	Gold	When obtained: The '76 Raiders will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	232	Team	'77 Broncos	Gold	When obtained: The '77 Broncos will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	233	Team	'78 Dolphins	Gold	When obtained: The '78 Dolphins will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	234	Team	'80 Raiders	Gold	When obtained: The '80 Raiders will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	235	Team	'81 Chargers	Gold	When obtained: The '81 Chargers will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	236	Team	'82 Redskins	Gold	When obtained: The '82 Redskins will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	237	Team	'83 Raiders	Gold	When obtained: The '83 Raiders will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	238	Team	'84 Dolphins	Gold	When obtained: The '84 Dolphins will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	239	Team	'85 Bears	Gold	When obtained: The '85 Bears will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	240	Team	'86 Giants	Gold	When obtained: The '86 Giants will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	241	Team	'88 49ers	Gold	When obtained: The '88 49ers will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	242	Team	'90 Eagles	Gold	When obtained: The '90 Eagles will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	243	Team	'91 Lions	Gold	When obtained: The '91 Lions will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	244	Team	'92 Cowboys	Gold	When obtained: The '92 Cowboys will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	245	Team	'93 Bills	Gold	When obtained: The '93 Bills will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	246	Team	'94 49ers	Gold	When obtained: The '94 49ers will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	247	Team	'96 Packers	Gold	When obtained: The '96 Packers will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	248	Team	'98 Broncos	Gold	When obtained: The '98 Broncos will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	249	Team	'99 Rams	Gold	When obtained: The '99 Rams will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	250	Cheerleader	Bears Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Bears.
❒	251	Cheerleader	Bengals Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Bengals.
❒	252	Cheerleader	Bills Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Bills.
❒	253	Cheerleader	Broncos Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Broncos.
❒	254	Cheerleader	Browns Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Browns.
❒	255	Cheerleader	Bucs Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Buccaneers.
❒	256	Cheerleader	Cardinals Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Cardinals.
❒	257	Cheerleader	Chargers Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Chargers.
❒	258	Cheerleader	Chiefs Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Chiefs.
❒	259	Cheerleader	Colts Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Colts.
❒	260	Cheerleader	Cowboys Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Cowboys.
❒	261	Cheerleader	Dolphins Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Dolphins.
❒	262	Cheerleader	Eagles Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Eagles.
❒	263	Cheerleader	Falcons Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Falcons.
❒	264	Cheerleader	49ers Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the 49ers.
❒	265	Cheerleader	Giants Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Giants.
❒	266	Cheerleader	Jaguars Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Jaguars.
❒	267	Cheerleader	Jets Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Jets.
❒	268	Cheerleader	Lions Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Lions.
❒	269	Cheerleader	Packers Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Packers.
❒	270	Cheerleader	Panthers Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Panthers.
❒	271	Cheerleader	Patriots Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Patriots.
❒	272	Cheerleader	Raiders Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Raiders.
❒	273	Cheerleader	Rams Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Rams.
❒	274	Cheerleader	Ravens Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Ravens.
❒	275	Cheerleader	Redskins Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Redskins.
❒	276	Cheerleader	Saints Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Saints.
❒	277	Cheerleader	Seahawks Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Seahawks.
❒	278	Cheerleader	Steelers Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Steelers.
❒	279	Cheerleader	Texans Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Titans.
❒	280	Cheerleader	Titans Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Texans.
❒	281	Cheerleader	Vikings Cheerleaders	Gold	When played: This pumps up the crowd for the Vikings.
❒	282	Cheerleader	Hall of Fame AFC	Gold	If you have this card, the Hall of Fame AFC legends will be unlocked at Team Select.
❒	283	Cheerleader	Hall of Fame NFC	Gold	If you have this card, the Hall of Fame AFC legends will be unlocked at Team Select.

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DEPTH CHARTS

Bears

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Thomas	Jones
C	0	Olin	Kreutz
C	1	Lennie	Friedman
CB	0	Nathan	Vasher
CB	1	Charles	Tillman
CB	2	Ricky	Manning
DT	0	Tommie	Harris
DT	1	Ian	Scott
HB	0	Thomas	Jones
HB	1	Cedric	Benson
HB	2	Adrian	Peterson
LT	0	John	Tait
LT	1	Qasim	Mitchell
MLB	0	Brian	Urlacher
MLB	1	Jeremy	Cain
QB	0	Rex	Grossman
QB	1	Brian	Griese
QB	2	Kyle	Orton
RT	0	Fred	Miller
RT	1	John	St. Clair
TE	0	Desmond	Clark
TE	1	John	Gilmore
WR	0	Muhsin	Muhammad
WR	1	Mark	Bradley
WR	2	Bernard	Berrian

Bills

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Willis	McGahee
C	0	Melvin	Fowler
C	1	Duke	Preston
CB	0	Nate	Clements
CB	1	Terrence	McGee
CB	2	Eric	King
DT	0	Larry	Tripplett
DT	1	Tim	Anderson
HB	0	Willis	McGahee
HB	1	Shaud	Williams
HB	2	Lionel	Gates
LT	0	Mike	Gandy
LT	1	Matt	Morgan
MLB	0	London	Fletcher
MLB	1	Liam	Ezekiel
QB	0	Kelly	Holcomb
QB	1	J.P.	Losman
QB	2	Craig	Nall
RT	0	Jason	Peters
RT	1	Aaron	Gibson
TE	0	Robert	Royal
TE	1	Brad	Cieslak
WR	0	Lee	Evans
WR	1	Peerless	Price
WR	2	Roscoe	Parrish

Browns

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Lee	Suggs
C	0	LeCharles	Bentley
C	1	Rob	Smith
CB	0	Gary	Baxter
CB	1	Daylon	McCutcheon
DT	0	Ted	Washington
DT	1	Ethan	Kelley
HB	0	Reuben	Droughns
HB	1	Lee	Suggs
HB	2	William	Green
LT	0	Kevin	Shaffer
LT	1	Kirk	Chambers
MLB	0	Andra	Davis
MLB	1	Chaun	Thompson
MLB	2	D'Qwell	Jackson
QB	0	Charlie	Frye
QB	1	Ken	Dorsey
QB	2	Derek	Anderson
RT	0	Ryan	Tucker
RT	1	Nat	Dorsey
TE	0	Kellen	Winslow
TE	1	Steve	Heiden
WR	0	Joe	Jurevicius
WR	1	Braylon	Edwards
WR	2	Dennis	Northcutt

Bengals

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Chris	Perry
C	0	Rich	Braham
C	1	Eric	Ghiaciuc
CB	0	Deltha	O'Neal
CB	1	Tory	James
CB	2	Keiwan	Ratliff
DT	0	Sam	Adams
DT	1	John	Thornton
HB	0	Rudi	Johnson
HB	1	Chris	Perry
HB	2	Kenny	Watson
LT	0	Levi	Jones
LT	1	Andrew	Whitworth
MLB	0	Odell	Thurman
MLB	1	A.J.	Nicholson
QB	0	Carson	Palmer
QB	1	Anthony	Wright
QB	2	Doug	Johnson
RT	0	Willie	Anderson
RT	1	Stacy	Andrews
TE	0	Reggie	Kelly
TE	1	Tony	Stewart
WR	0	Chad	Johnson
WR	1	T.J.	Houshmandz
WR	2	Chris	Henry

Broncos

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Tatum	Bell
C	0	Tom	Nalen
C	1	Chris	Myers
CB	0	Champ	Bailey
CB	1	Darrent	Williams
DT	0	Gerard	Warren
DT	1	Michael	Myers
HB	0	Tatum	Bell
HB	1	Ron	Dayne
HB	2	Cedric	Cobbs
LT	0	Matt	Lepsis
LT	1	Cornell	Green
MLB	0	Al	Wilson
MLB	1	Nate	Webster
MLB	2	Keith	Burns
QB	0	Jake	Plummer
QB	1	Bradlee	Van Pelt
QB	2	Jay	Cutler
RT	0	George	Foster
RT	1	P.J.	Alexander
TE	0	Stephen	Alexander
TE	1	Tony	Scheffler
WR	0	Rod	Smith
WR	1	Javon	Walker
WR	2	Ashley	Lelie

Buccaneers

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Michael	Pittman
C	0	John	Wade
C	1	Scott	Jackson
CB	0	Ronde	Barber
CB	1	Brian	Kelly
CB	2	Juran	Bolden
DT	0	Anthony	McFarland
DT	1	Chris	Hovan
HB	0	Carnell	Williams
HB	1	Michael	Pittman
HB	2	Earnest	Graham
LT	0	Anthony	Davis
LT	1	Torrin	Tucker
MLB	0	Shelton	Quarles
MLB	1	Barrett	Ruud
QB	0	Chris	Simms
QB	1	Luke	McCown
QB	2	Tim	Rattay
RT	0	Kenyatta	Walker
RT	1	Jeremy	Trueblood
TE	0	Anthony	Becht
TE	1	Alex	Smith
WR	0	Joey	Galloway
WR	1	Michael	Clayton
WR	2	Ike	Hilliard

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Cardinals

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Edgerrin	James
C	0	Alex	Stepanovich
C	1	Nick	Leckey
CB	0	Antrel	Rolle
CB	1	David	Macklin
CB	2	Eric	Green
DT	0	Darnell	Dockett
DT	1	Kendrick	Clancy
HB	0	Edgerrin	James
HB	1	Marcel	Shipp
HB	2	J.J.	Arrington
LT	0	Leonard	Davis
LT	1	Dante	Ellington
MLB	0	Karlos	Dansby
MLB	1	James	Darling
QB	0	Kurt	Warner
QB	1	Matt	Leinart
RT	0	Oliver	Ross
RT	1	Fred	Wakefield
TE	0	Eric	Edwards
TE	1	Leonard	Pope
WR	0	Larry	Fitzgerald
WR	1	Anquan	Boldin
WR	2	Bryant	Johnson

Chargers

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	LaDainian	Tomlinson
C	0	Nick	Hardwick
C	1	Scott	Mruczkowski
CB	0	Quentin	Jammer
CB	1	Drayton	Florence
CB	2	Antonio	Cromartie
DT	0	Jamal	Williams
DT	1	Ryon	Bingham
HB	0	LaDainian	Tomlinson
HB	1	Michael	Turner
HB	2	Darren	Sproles
LT	0	Roman	Oben
LT	1	Marcus	McNeill
MLB	0	Donnie	Edwards
MLB	1	Randall	Godfrey
QB	0	Philip	Rivers
QB	1	A.J.	Feeley
RT	0	Shane	Olivea
RT	1	Leander	Jordan
TE	0	Antonio	Gates
TE	1	Aaron	Shea
WR	0	Keenan	McCardell
WR	1	Eric	Parker
WR	2	Kassim	Osgood

Chiefs

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Larry	Johnson
C	0	Casey	Wiegmann
C	1	Chris	Bober
CB	0	Patrick	Surtain
CB	1	Lenny	Walls
CB	2	Benny	Sapp
DT	0	Ryan	Sims
DT	1	Lional	Dalton
DT	2	John	Browning
HB	0	Larry	Johnson
HB	1	Priest	Holmes
HB	2	Dee	Brown
LT	0	Willie	Roaf
LT	1	Kevin	Sampson
MLB	0	Kawika	Mitchell
MLB	1	Rich	Scanlon
QB	0	Trent	Green
QB	1	Damon	Huard
RT	0	Jordan	Black
RT	1	Kyle	Turley
TE	0	Tony	Gonzalez
WR	0	Eddie	Kennison
WR	1	Samie	Parker
WR	2	Dante	Hall

Colts

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Joseph	Addai
C	0	Jeff	Saturday
C	1	Mike	Johnson
CB	0	Nick	Harper
CB	1	Jason	David
CB	2	Marlin	Jackson
DT	0	Corey	Simon
DT	1	Montae	Reagor
HB	0	Dominic	Rhodes
HB	1	Joseph	Addai
HB	2	Kory	Chapman
LT	0	Tarik	Glenn
LT	1	Makoa	Freitas
MLB	0	Gary	Brackett
MLB	1	Rob	Morris
QB	0	Peyton	Manning
QB	1	Jim	Sorgi
RT	0	Ryan	Diem
RT	1	Michael	Toudouze
TE	0	Dallas	Clark
TE	1	Bryan	Fletcher
WR	0	Marvin	Harrison
WR	1	Reggie	Wayne
WR	2	Brandon	Stokley

Cowboys

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Julius	Jones
C	0	Al	Johnson
C	1	Andre	Gurode
CB	0	Terence	Newman

Cowboys continued

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
CB	1	Anthony	Henry
CB	2	Aaron	Glenn
DT	0	Jason	Ferguson
DT	1	Thomas	Johnson
HB	0	Julius	Jones
HB	1	Marion	Barber
HB	2	Tyson	Thompson
LT	0	Flozell	Adams
LT	1	Marc	Colombo
MLB	0	Akin	Ayodele
MLB	1	Bradie	James
QB	0	Drew	Bledsoe
QB	1	Tony	Romo
RT	0	Jason	Fabini
RT	1	Rob	Petitti
TE	0	Jason	Witten
TE	1	Anthony	Fasano
WR	0	Terrell	Owens
WR	1	Terry	Glenn

Dolphins

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Ronnie	Brown
C	0	Seth	McKinney
C	1	Wade	Smith
CB	0	Will	Allen
CB	1	Travis	Daniels
DT	0	Keith	Traylor
DT	1	Vonnie	Holliday
HB	0	Ronnie	Brown
HB	1	Travis	Minor
HB	2	Kay-Jay	Harris
LT	0	L.J.	Shelton
LT	1	Mike	Pearson
MLB	0	Zach	Thomas
MLB	1	Mike	Labinjo
QB	0	Daunte	Culpepper
QB	1	Joey	Harrington
RT	0	Vernon	Carey
RT	1	Damion	McIntosh
TE	0	Randy	McMichael
TE	1	Justin	Peelle
WR	0	Chris	Chambers
WR	1	Marty	Booker
WR	2	Derek	Hagan
WR	3	Wes	Welker

Eagles

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Brian	Westbrook
C	0	Hank	Fraley
C	1	Jamaal	Jackson
CB	0	Sheldon	Brown
CB	1	Lito	Sheppard
CB	2	Roderick	Hood
DT	0	Darwin	Walker
DT	1	Mike	Patterson
HB	0	Brian	Westbrook

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Eagles continued

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
HB	1	Ryan	Moats
HB	2	Bruce	Perry
LT	0	William	Thomas
LT	1	Winston	Justice
MLB	0	Jeremiah	Trotter
MLB	1	Mark	Simoneau
QB	0	Donovan	McNabb
QB	1	Jeff	Garcia
RT	0	Jon	Runyan
RT	1	Calvin	Armstrong
TE	0	L.J.	Smith
TE	1	Matt	Schobel
WR	0	Reggie	Brown
WR	1	Todd	Pinkston

Falcons

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Warrick	Dunn
C	0	Todd	McClure
C	1	Austin	King
CB	0	DeAngelo	Hall
CB	1	Jason	Webster
DT	0	Rod	Coleman
DT	1	Chad	Lavalais
HB	0	Warrick	Dunn
HB	1	T.J.	Duckett
HB	2	Jerious	Norwood
LT	0	Wayne	Gandy
LT	1	Frank	Omiyale
MLB	0	Ed	Hartwell
MLB	1	Jordan	Beck
QB	0	Michael	Vick
QB	1	Matt	Schaub
RT	0	Todd	Weiner
RT	1	Quinn	Ojinnaka
TE	0	Alge	Crumpler
TE	1	Eric	Beverly
WR	0	Michael	Jenkins
WR	1	Roddy	White
WR	2	Brian	Finneran
WR	3	Jerome	Pathon

49ers

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Kevan	Barlow
C	0	Jeremy	Newberry
C	1	Ben	Sobieski
CB	0	Shawntae	Spencer
CB	1	Walt	Harris
CB	2	Mike	Rumph
DT	0	Anthony	Adams
DT	1	Isaac	Sopoaga
HB	0	Frank	Gore
HB	1	Kevan	Barlow
HB	2	Maurice	Hicks
LT	0	Jonas	Jennings
LT	1	Patrick	Estes
MLB	0	Derek	Smith

49ers continued

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
MLB	1	Jeff	Ulbrich
QB	0	Alex	Smith
QB	1	Trent	Dilfer
RT	0	Kwame	Harris
RT	1	Adam	Snyder
TE	0	Vernon	Davis
TE	1	Eric	Johnson
WR	0	Antonio	Bryant
WR	1	Arnaz	Battle

Giants

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Tiki	Barber
C	0	Shaun	O'Hara
C	1	Grey	Ruegamer
CB	0	Sam	Madison
CB	1	Corey	Webster
DT	0	William	Joseph
DT	1	Fred	Robbins
DT	2	Damane	Duckett
HB	0	Tiki	Barber
HB	1	Brandon	Jacobs
LT	0	Luke	Petitgout
LT	1	Bob	Whitfield
MLB	0	Antonio	Pierce
MLB	1	Chase	Blackburn
QB	0	Eli	Manning
QB	1	Tim	Hasselbeck
RT	0	Kareem	McKenzie
RT	1	Lewis	Kelly
TE	0	Jeremy	Shockey
TE	1	Visanthe	Shiancoe
WR	0	Plaxico	Burress
WR	1	Amani	Toomer
WR	2	Sinorice	Moss
WR	3	Tim	Carter

Jaguars

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Alvin	Pearman
C	0	Brad	Meester
C	1	Dennis	Norman
CB	0	Rashean	Mathis
CB	1	Brian	Williams
CB	2	Terry	Cousin
DT	0	Marcus	Stroud
DT	1	John	Henderson
HB	0	Fred	Taylor
HB	1	Alvin	Pearman
HB	2	LaBrandon	Toefield
LT	0	Khalif	Barnes
LT	1	Stockar	McDougle
MLB	0	Mike	Peterson
MLB	1	Tony	Gilbert
QB	0	Byron	Leftwich
QB	1	David	Garrard
RT	0	Maurice	Williams
RT	1	Mike	Williams

Jaguars continued

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
TE	0	Kyle	Brady
TE	1	Marcedes	Lewis
WR	0	Matt	Jones
WR	1	Ernest	Wilford

Jets

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Derrick	Blaylock
C	0	Trey	Teague
C	1	Nick	Mangold
CB	0	David	Barrett
CB	1	Justin	Miller
DT	0	Dewayne	Robertson
DT	1	Sione	Pouha
HB	0	Curtis	Martin
HB	1	Cedric	Houston
HB	2	Derrick	Blaylock
LT	0	DBrickashaw	Ferguson
LT	1	Anthony	Clement
MLB	0	Jonathan	Vilma
MLB	1	Eric	Barton
QB	0	Chad	Pennington
QB	1	Patrick	Ramsey
RT	0	Adrian	Jones
RT	1	Marko	Cavka
TE	0	Chris	Baker
TE	1	Doug	Jolley
WR	0	Laveranues	Coles
WR	1	Justin	McCareins
WR	2	Jerricho	Cotchery
WR	3	Tim	Dwight

Lions

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Shawn	Bryson
C	0	Dominic	Raiola
C	1	Brock	Gutierrez
CB	0	Dre'	Bly
CB	1	Fernando	Bryant
CB	2	Stanley	Wilson
DT	0	Shaun	Rogers
DT	1	Shaun	Cody
HB	0	Kevin	Jones
HB	1	Shawn	Bryson
HB	2	Artose	Pinner
LT	0	Jeff	Backus
LT	1	Jonathan	Scott
MLB	0	Teddy	Lehman
MLB	1	Paris	Lenon
QB	0	Jon	Kitna
QB	1	Josh	McCown
RT	0	Kelly	Butler
RT	1	Victor	Rogers
TE	0	Marcus	Pollard
TE	1	Dan	Campbell
WR	0	Roy	Williams
WR	1	Scottie	Vines
WR	2	Mike	Williams

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Packers

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Ahman	Green
C	0	Scott	Wells
C	1	Jason	Spitz
C	2	Chris	White
CB	0	Al	Harris
CB	1	Charles	Woodson
DT	0	Ryan	Pickett
DT	1	Cullen	Jenkins
HB	0	Ahman	Green
HB	1	Najeh	Davenport
HB	2	Samkon	Gado
LT	0	Chad	Clifton
LT	1	Tony	Moll
MLB	0	Nick	Barnett
MLB	1	Abdul	Hodge
QB	0	Brett	Favre
QB	1	Aaron	Rodgers
RT	0	Mark	Tauscher
RT	1	Kevin	Barry
TE	0	Bubba	Franks
TE	1	Donald	Lee
WR	0	Donald	Driver
WR	1	Robert	Ferguson
WR	2	Rod	Gardner

Panthers

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	DeAngelo	Williams
C	0	Justin	Hartwig
C	1	Geoff	Hangartner
CB	0	Ken	Lucas
CB	1	Chris	Gamble
CB	2	Reggie	Howard
DT	0	Kris	Jenkins
DT	1	Ma'ake	Kemoeatu
HB	0	DeShaun	Foster
HB	1	Nick	Goings
HB	2	DeAngelo	Williams
LT	0	Travelle	Wharton
LT	1	Todd	Fordham
MLB	0	Dan	Morgan
MLB	1	Adam	Seward
QB	0	Jake	Delhomme
QB	1	Chris	Weinke
RT	0	Jordan	Gross
RT	1	Dave	Kadela
TE	0	Kris	Mangum
TE	1	Mike	Seidman
WR	0	Steve	Smith
WR	1	Keyshawn	Johnson
WR	2	Keary	Colbert

Patriots

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Kevin	Faulk
C	0	Daniel	Koppen
C	1	Russ	Hochstein
CB	0	Asante	Samuel
CB	1	Ellis	Hobbs
CB	2	Randall	Gay
DT	0	Vince	Wilfork
DT	1	Johnathan	Sullivan
HB	0	Corey	Dillon
HB	1	Laurence	Maroney
HB	2	Kevin	Faulk
LT	0	Matt	Light
LT	1	Nick	Kaczur
MLB	0	Mike	Vrabel
MLB	1	Tedy	Bruschi
QB	0	Tom	Brady
QB	1	Matt	Cassel
RT	0	Brandon	Gorin
RT	1	Wesley	Britt
TE	0	Daniel	Graham
TE	1	Ben	Watson
WR	0	Deion	Branch
WR	1	Reche	Caldwell
WR	2	Troy	Brown

Raiders

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	LaMont	Jordan
C	0	Jake	Grove
C	1	Adam	Treu
CB	0	Nnamdi	Asomugha
CB	1	Fabian	Washington
CB	2	Stanford	Routt
DT	0	Warren	Sapp
DT	1	Tommy	Kelly
HB	0	LaMont	Jordan
HB	1	Justin	Fargas
HB	2	DeJuan	Green
LT	0	Robert	Gallery
LT	1	Chad	Slaughter
MLB	0	Danny	Clark
MLB	1	Isaiah	Ekejiuba
QB	0	Aaron	Brooks
QB	1	Marques	Tuiasosopo
RT	0	Langston	Walker
RT	1	Brad	Lekkerkerker
TE	0	Courtney	Anderson
TE	1	Randal	Williams
WR	0	Randy	Moss
WR	1	Jerry	Porter
WR	2	Ronald	Curry

Rams

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Marshall	Faulk
C	0	Andy	McCollum
C	1	Larry	Turner
CB	0	Jerametrius	Butler

Rams continued

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
CB	1	Fakhir	Brown
CB	2	Travis	Fisher
DT	0	La'Roi	Glover
DT	1	Jimmy	Kennedy
HB	0	Steven	Jackson
HB	1	Marshall	Faulk
LT	0	Orlando	Pace
LT	1	Drew	Strojny
MLB	0	Will	Witherspoon
MLB	1	Trev	Faulk
QB	0	Marc	Bulger
QB	1	Gus	Frerotte
RT	0	Alex	Barron
RT	1	Todd	Steussie
TE	0	Jerome	Collins
TE	1	Aaron	Walker
WR	0	Torry	Holt
WR	1	Isaac	Bruce
WR	2	Kevin	Curtis

Ravens

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Jamal	Lewis
C	0	Mike	Flynn
C	1	Chris	Chester
C	2	Jason	Brown
CB	0	Chris	McAlister
CB	1	Samari	Rolle
DT	0	Kelly	Gregg
DT	1	Justin	Bannan
HB	0	Jamal	Lewis
HB	1	Mike	Anderson
HB	2	Musa	Smith
LT	0	Jonathan	Ogden
LT	1	Adam	Terry
MLB	0	Ray	Lewis
MLB	1	Tim	Johnson
QB	0	Steve	McNair
QB	1	Kyle	Boller
RT	0	Tony	Pashos
RT	1	Mike	Kracalik
TE	0	Todd	Heap
TE	1	Daniel	Wilcox
WR	0	Derrick	Mason
WR	1	Mark	Clayton
WR	2	Clarence	Moore

Redskins

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Clinton	Portis
C	0	Casey	Rabach
C	1	Tyson	Walter
CB	0	Shawn	Springs
CB	1	Carlos	Rogers
CB	2	Kenny	Wright
DT	0	Cornelius	Griffin
DT	1	Joe	Salave'a
HB	0	Clinton	Portis

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Redskins continued

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
HB	1	Ladell	Betts
LT	0	Chris	Samuels
LT	1	Jim	Molinaro
MLB	0	Lemar	Marshall
MLB	1	Khary	Campbell
QB	0	Mark	Brunell
QB	1	Jason	Campbell
RT	0	Jon	Jansen
RT	1	Jonta	Woodard
TE	0	Christian	Fauria
TE	1	Robert	Johnson
WR	0	Santana	Moss
WR	1	Brandon	Lloyd
WR	2	Antwaan	Randle El

Saints

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Reggie	Bush
C	0	Jeff	Faine
C	1	Dwayne	Ledford
CB	0	Mike	McKenzie
CB	1	Fred	Thomas
CB	2	Jason	Craft
DT	0	Brian	Young
DT	1	Hollis	Thomas
HB	0	Deuce	McAllister
HB	1	Reggie	Bush
HB	2	Michael	Bennett
LT	0	Jammal	Brown
LT	1	Ben	Archibald
MLB	0	Alfred	Fincher
MLB	1	Colby	Bockwoldt
QB	0	Drew	Brees
QB	1	Todd	Bouman
RT	0	Jon	Stinchcomb
RT	1	Jamar	Nesbit
TE	0	Ernie	Conwell
TE	1	Zach	Hilton
WR	0	Joe	Horn
WR	1	Donte	Stallworth
WR	2	Devery	Henderson

Seahawks

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Shaun	Alexander
C	0	Robbie	Tobeck
C	1	Chris	Spencer
CB	0	Marcus	Trufant
CB	1	Kelly	Herndon
DT	0	Rocky	Bernard
DT	1	Chartric	Darby
HB	0	Shaun	Alexander
HB	1	Maurice	Morris
HB	2	Josh	Scobey
LT	0	Walter	Jones
LT	1	William	Henry
MLB	0	Lofa	Tatupu
MLB	1	Niko	Koutouvides

Seahawks continued

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
QB	0	Matt	Hasselbeck
QB	1	Seneca	Wallace
RT	0	Sean	Locklear
RT	1	Ray	Willis
TE	0	Jerramy	Stevens
TE	1	Itula	Mili
WR	0	Darrell	Jackson
WR	1	Nate	Burleson
WR	2	Bobby	Engram

Steelers

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Verron	Haynes
C	0	Jeff	Hartings
C	1	Chukky	Okobi
CB	0	Deshea	Townsend
CB	1	Ike	Taylor
CB	2	Bryant	McFadden
DT	0	Casey	Hampton
DT	1	Chris	Hoke
HB	0	Willie	Parker
HB	1	Duce	Staley
HB	2	Verron	Haynes
LT	0	Marvel	Smith
LT	1	Trai	Essex
MLB	0	James	Farrior
MLB	1	Larry	Foote
QB	0	Ben	Roethlisbergr
QB	1	Charlie	Batch
RT	0	Max	Starks
RT	1	Barrett	Brooks
TE	0	Heath	Miller
TE	1	Jerame	Tuman
WR	0	Hines	Ward
WR	1	Cedrick	Wilson
WR	2	Santonio	Holmes

Texans

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Domanick	Davis
C	0	Mike	Flanagan
C	1	Drew	Hodgdon
CB	0	Dunta	Robinson
CB	1	Phillip	Buchanon
CB	2	DeMarcus	Faggins
DT	0	Robaire	Smith
DT	1	Travis	Johnson
HB	0	Domanick	Davis
HB	1	Vernand	Morency
HB	2	Antowain	Smith
LT	0	Seth	Wand
LT	1	Charles	Spencer
MLB	0	Sam	Cowart
MLB	1	Wali	Rainer
QB	0	David	Carr
QB	1	Sage	Rosenfels
RT	0	Zach	Wiegert
RT	1	Todd	Wade

Texans continued

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
TE	0	Mark	Bruener
TE	1	Jeb	Putzier
WR	0	Andre	Johnson
WR	1	Eric	Moulds

Titans

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Chris	Brown
C	0	Kevin	Mawae
C	1	Eugene	Amano
CB	0	Pacman	Jones
CB	1	Reynaldo	Hill
DT	0	Albert	Haynesworth
DT	1	Randy	Starks
HB	0	Chris	Brown
HB	1	Travis	Henry
HB	2	LenDale	White
LT	0	Michael	Roos
LT	1	Wendell	Singletary
MLB	0	Peter	Sirmon
MLB	1	Rob	Reynolds
QB	0	Billy	Volek
QB	1	Vince	Young
RT	0	David	Stewart
RT	1	Daniel	Loper
TE	0	Erron	Kinney
TE	1	Ben	Troupe
WR	0	David	Givens
WR	1	Drew	Bennett
WR	2	Brandon	Jones
WR	3	Courtney	Roby

Vikings

Position	Depth	First Name	Last Name
3DRB	0	Mewelde	Moore
C	0	Matt	Birk
C	1	Jason	Whittle
CB	0	Antoine	Winfield
CB	1	Fred	Smoot
CB	2	Cedric	Griffin
DT	0	Pat	Williams
DT	1	Kevin	Williams
HB	0	Chester	Taylor
HB	1	Mewelde	Moore
HB	2	Ciatrick	Fason
LT	0	Bryant	McKinnie
LT	1	Adam	Goldberg
MLB	0	Napoleon	Harris
MLB	1	Rod	Davis
QB	0	Brad	Johnson
QB	1	Mike	McMahon
RT	0	Marcus	Johnson
RT	1	Mike	Rosenthal
TE	0	Jermaine	Wiggins
TE	1	Jim	Kleinsasser
WR	0	Koren	Robinson
WR	1	Travis	Taylor
WR	2	Troy	Williamson

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ROSTER ATTRIBUTES

The following offensive and defensive lists include every player who is rated approximately 70 or above in his position, and have been sorted by overall rating. However, the overall rating is just a starting point. Each list includes additional attributes related to the position. Consider these attributes when you search for the perfect player to complement your team.

OFFENSIVE PLAYERS

C — CENTERS

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Strength	Awareness	Run Blocking	Pass Blocking
93	Jeff	Hartings	92	94	94	90
93	Matt	Birk	87	95	88	93
92	Mike	Flanagan	87	92	89	93
91	Casey	Wiegmann	85	91	89	90
91	Todd	McClure	86	87	93	85
90	Jeff	Mitchell	91	90	87	90
89	Jeremy	Newberry	93	88	92	88
89	Brad	Meester	86	87	90	90
88	Robbie	Tobeck	87	93	88	87
88	Daniel	Koppen	88	86	87	91
87	Dominic	Raiola	83	84	86	88
87	Rich	Braham	93	90	93	86
86	Nick	Hardwick	87	72	90	88
86	Casey	Rabach	87	86	89	87
86	Mike	Flynn	85	88	87	87
86	Trey	Teague	84	84	85	91
86	Justin	Hartwig	88	79	92	87
85	John	Wade	87	87	87	88
84	Jeff	Faine	87	73	86	86
84	Shaun	O'Hara	85	84	88	86
84	Hank	Fraley	88	88	88	86
84	Chris	Spencer	91	64	89	88
83	Jake	Grove	87	75	86	87
83	Andy	McCollum	87	90	87	87
83	Nick	Mangold	89	62	87	87
82	Chris	Bober	87	79	87	89
82	Russ	Hochstein	88	81	87	86
81	Chukky	Okobi	87	74	86	83
80	Tom	Nutten	91	75	87	90
80	Andre	Gurode	90	67	85	83
80	Grey	Ruegamer	96	72	88	84
80	Melvin	Fowler	85	76	85	84
79	Adam	Treu	86	75	85	87
79	Scott	Wells	83	73	82	85
79	Wade	Smith	88	70	84	85
78	Cory	Raymer	87	75	88	87
78	Ryan	Cook	87	64	84	82
78	Jamaal	Jackson	85	69	84	83
77	Nick	Leckey	81	73	82	85
77	Jason	Whittle	88	75	87	81
76	Al	Johnson	87	65	88	79
76	Greg	Eslinger	83	68	81	80
76	Seth	McKinney	84	70	81	82
76	Alex	Stepanovich	85	72	86	84
76	Todd	Washington	87	68	82	80

FB — FULLBACKS

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Strength	Awareness	Catching	Run Blocking
97	Lorenzo	Neal	77	90	62	85
95	Mack	Strong	74	75	68	70
95	Fred	Beasley	72	90	75	64
95	Chris	Cooley	68	82	90	54
93	William	Henderson	71	83	77	68
92	Tony	Richardson	68	75	70	64
91	Justin	Griffith	70	66	70	66
91	Dan	Kreider	78	80	54	84
90	Mike	Alstott	81	91	61	53
89	Jerald	Sowell	66	73	77	68
88	Patrick	Pass	69	68	70	56
87	Kyle	Johnson	66	65	72	64
87	Alan	Ricard	77	72	54	82
86	Cory	Schlesinger	76	75	74	58
86	Zack	Crockett	81	74	55	55
86	Terrelle	Smith	77	74	56	78
85	Bryan	Johnson	70	75	66	67
84	Obafemi	Ayanbadejo	65	65	62	67
84	Jeremi	Johnson	72	65	68	66
84	Greg	Jones	78	74	52	53
83	Nick	Luchey	70	69	62	65
83	Sammy	Morris	69	65	70	51
83	Heath	Evans	66	63	68	58
81	Jameel	Cook	64	62	70	60
80	David	Kirtman	69	54	67	64
80	Robert	Holcombe	70	67	67	50
80	Brad	Hoover	70	68	65	55
80	J.D.	Runnels	70	54	65	69
79	Lousaka	Polite	71	63	62	67
79	Mike	Sellers	72	62	57	71
78	James	Mungro	68	68	65	47
77	Fred	McCrary	66	69	62	72
77	Lawrence	Vickers	72	55	60	52
76	Mike	Karney	74	60	62	68
75	B.J.	Askew	67	60	65	50
75	Jason	McKie	72	62	67	60
75	Troy	Fleming	71	54	69	47
74	Jim	Finn	73	75	60	60
74	Daimon	Shelton	75	68	57	64
74	Casey	Cramer	75	60	50	69
73	Darian	Barnes	72	58	58	64
73	Madison	Hedgecock	61	59	63	60
73	Chris	Fuamatu-Ma'	77	66	55	52
73	Josh	Parry	75	60	50	69
71	Richard	Owens	70	50	66	59

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HB HALFBACKS

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Speed	Agility	Run Awareness	Break Tackle
98	Shaun	Alexander	91	89	97	38
97	LaDainian	Tomlinson	95	95	90	40
96	Edgerrin	James	92	92	91	45
95	Tiki	Barber	93	94	94	35
95	Larry	Johnson	93	90	86	26
94	Clinton	Portis	95	95	88	42
92	Warrick	Dunn	96	97	93	26
92	Rudi	Johnson	87	84	89	38
91	Brian	Westbrook	94	96	85	32
90	Willis	McGahee	89	87	81	39
90	Carnell	Williams	93	94	78	45
90	LaMont	Jordan	89	86	85	39
90	Domanick	Davis	92	93	85	30
89	Ronnie	Brown	93	90	74	48
89	Deuce	McAllister	89	85	86	35
89	Fred	Taylor	93	92	87	36
89	Curtis	Martin	87	83	97	31
89	Corey	Dillon	87	83	90	42
89	Priest	Holmes	88	90	93	31
89	Jamal	Lewis	88	82	85	52
88	Thomas	Jones	90	90	86	32
88	Ahman	Green	92	85	87	45
88	Reuben	Droughns	86	84	88	45
88	Steven	Jackson	88	86	81	49
87	Julius	Jones	91	93	79	42
87	Reggie	Bush	97	98	55	32
87	DeShaun	Foster	92	92	82	37
87	Kevin	Jones	91	88	76	43
87	Mike	Anderson	85	79	87	50
87	Willie	Parker	97	88	78	35
86	Tatum	Bell	96	92	75	36
86	Chris	Brown	89	85	80	42
86	Chester	Taylor	88	89	78	29
85	Chris	Perry	90	89	70	46
85	Marshall	Faulk	88	89	95	30
85	Stephen	Davis	83	76	90	40
84	Travis	Henry	87	85	83	40
84	Cedric	Benson	88	87	67	45
84	Dominic	Rhodes	89	92	76	27
84	T.J.	Duckett	86	82	76	35
83	Michael	Pittman	88	85	78	37
82	Duce	Staley	84	81	87	41
82	Marion	Barber	87	87	69	42
82	Kevan	Barlow	86	83	77	40
82	Kevin	Faulk	89	92	85	24
82	DeAngelo	Williams	92	93	62	35
82	Laurence	Maroney	90	92	55	34
81	Maurice	Morris	91	89	73	33
81	Ryan	Moats	92	94	67	38
81	Michael	Turner	91	82	69	39
81	Ladell	Betts	87	84	74	29
80	Frank	Gore	88	88	60	38
80	Joseph	Addai	94	90	57	38
80	Antowain	Smith	82	80	85	34
80	Najeh	Davenport	86	83	67	58
79	LenDale	White	87	84	45	49
79	Brandon	Jacobs	86	80	65	45
79	Tony	Fisher	87	88	72	40
79	Marcel	Shipp	84	82	73	32
79	Ron	Dayne	84	76	75	35
79	Verron	Haynes	86	85	65	54
78	Nick	Goings	86	82	76	44
77	Travis	Minor	88	89	74	35

HB HALFBACKS continued

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Speed	Agility	Run Awareness	Break Tackle
77	Adrian	Peterson	86	84	67	22
77	Mewelde	Moore	88	90	72	50
77	Jonathan	Wells	86	81	72	31
77	Cedric	Houston	85	82	64	42
77	Darren	Sproles	92	94	58	30
77	Lee	Suggs	91	86	70	40
76	LaBrandon	Toefield	87	85	62	25
76	Derrick	Blaylock	93	87	72	24
76	Shawn	Bryson	89	78	70	52
76	Justin	Fargas	94	88	65	33
76	Aaron	Stecker	88	89	70	25
76	Anthony	Thomas	83	78	75	37
76	Michael	Bennett	97	86	70	26
76	Rock	Cartwright	85	78	68	50
76	Vernand	Morency	90	91	52	42
76	Samkon	Gado	88	85	66	35
76	Ciatrick	Fason	87	86	54	30
75	Leon	Washington	91	88	62	25
75	Brian	Calhoun	95	89	52	35
75	P.J.	Daniels	85	80	50	45
75	William	Green	88	87	63	34
75	Jerious	Norwood	94	88	54	34
75	Maurice	Drew-Jones	94	94	52	25
75	Quentin	Griffin	92	91	70	24
75	Michael	Robinson	87	89	52	35
75	Jerome	Harrison	91	92	54	35
75	Maurice	Hicks	87	87	68	40
74	Lamar	Gordon	87	82	70	30
74	J.J.	Arrington	91	88	61	39
74	James	Jackson	87	85	70	34

LG LEFT GUARDS

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Strength	Awareness	Run Blocking	Pass Blocking
98	Alan	Faneca	96	94	97	94
98	Steve	Hutchinson	97	90	98	88
96	Mike	Wahle	94	87	94	92
94	Brian	Waters	90	85	92	92
92	Ben	Hamilton	85	85	92	88
91	Eric	Steinbach	88	87	87	95
90	Edwin	Mulitalo	96	89	97	85
90	Larry	Allen	98	95	95	83
89	Joseph	Andruzzi	90	92	89	90
89	Vince	Manuwai	93	75	90	92
88	Barry	Sims	87	86	87	91
88	Pete	Kendall	87	90	88	89
88	Rex	Tucker	89	86	89	87
87	Zach	Piller	92	85	89	87
87	Logan	Mankins	91	77	88	90
87	Ruben	Brown	93	91	91	84
86	Reggie	Wells	87	80	87	88
86	Jeno	James	91	80	89	85
85	Kendyl	Jacox	94	82	92	82
85	Kyle	Kosier	86	82	85	89
84	Matt	Lehr	90	79	87	87
84	Rick	DeMulling	89	78	86	90
84	Floyd	Womack	96	84	93	83
83	Chris	Liwienski	90	85	87	86
82	David	Diehl	87	72	89	86
82	Kris	Dielman	90	74	88	86

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LG LEFT GUARDS continued

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Strength	Awareness	Run Blocking	Pass Blocking
82	Dan	Buenning	90	78	90	86
82	Claude	Terrell	91	74	91	80
81	Jacob	Bell	89	65	86	89
81	Ross	Tucker	89	78	84	86
81	Chester	Pitts	89	76	87	83
81	Adrian	Klemm	90	74	84	87
81	Todd	Herremans	88	70	88	87
80	Bob	Hallen	89	81	85	83
80	Rich	Seubert	87	77	86	86
80	Toniu	Fonoti	90	73	86	82
80	Matt	Stinchcomb	87	73	83	87
79	David	Baas	88	65	87	86
79	Derrick	Dockery	97	73	91	79
79	Steve	Sciullo	88	74	83	88
78	Deuce	Lutui	94	58	90	88
77	David	Loverne	88	76	85	82
77	Bennie	Anderson	90	78	91	75
77	Daryn	Colledge	81	60	81	87
76	Montrae	Holland	92	70	89	81
76	Ryan	Lilja	85	69	81	86
75	Rob	Sims	91	60	86	82
75	Cameron	Spikes	88	74	82	82
74	Taylor	Whitley	88	67	83	83
74	Max	Jean-Gilles	95	60	90	81
73	Jimmy	Martin	83	60	80	82

LT LEFT TACKLES

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Strength	Awareness	Run Blocking	Pass Blocking
99	Walter	Jones	97	95	97	98
97	Orlando	Pace	95	96	91	97
97	Willie	Roaf	94	98	96	93
96	Jonathan	Ogden	98	95	98	92
95	Tarik	Glenn	95	92	93	98
94	William	Thomas	95	91	96	95
94	Chad	Clifton	92	93	92	97
93	Chris	Samuels	97	87	95	92
91	Bryant	McKinnie	92	85	87	97
91	Levi	Jones	89	84	91	95
91	Matt	Lepsis	90	90	94	90
90	Matt	Light	90	92	89	93
90	John	Tait	91	89	91	94
89	Flozell	Adams	97	90	97	87
89	Luke	Petitgout	90	88	94	89
89	Marvel	Smith	97	86	95	87
88	Wayne	Gandy	92	90	89	90
88	Leonard	Davis	99	82	94	87
88	Jeff	Backus	90	86	92	90
88	Robert	Gallery	92	77	92	90
87	Jonas	Jennings	94	85	91	87
87	Kevin	Shaffer	92	80	95	86
86	Roman	Oben	91	90	87	89
85	DBrickashaw	Ferguson	88	72	87	92

LT LEFT TACKLES continued

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Strength	Awareness	Run Blocking	Pass Blocking
85	Khalif	Barnes	90	72	91	89
85	Jammal	Brown	89	73	89	92
84	L.J.	Shelton	95	86	91	86
84	Stockar	McDougle	94	85	92	87
83	Travelle	Wharton	87	75	86	89
83	Ross	Verba	87	89	87	87
82	Derrick	Deese	87	90	88	86
82	Mike	Pearson	84	83	82	88
81	Michael	Roos	89	73	90	86
80	Bob	Whitfield	83	95	88	82
78	Anthony	Clement	92	75	86	84
78	Anthony	Davis	92	73	89	85
77	Adam	Goldberg	88	70	82	89
77	Cornell	Green	91	73	87	83
76	Courtney	Van Buren	90	65	91	85
76	Qasim	Mitchell	95	71	88	79
76	Makoa	Freitas	87	66	87	89
76	Todd	Fordham	89	82	86	79
76	Seth	Wand	89	72	86	83
75	Marcus	McNeill	92	56	84	85
75	Winston	Justice	89	49	89	89
74	Torrin	Tucker	87	74	86	85
74	Marcus	Spears	88	75	84	80
74	Mike	Gandy	88	68	83	81
74	Jacob	Rogers	84	65	82	86
74	Jason	Mathews	86	72	86	82

QB QUARTERBACKS

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Speed	Awareness	Throw Power	Throw Accuracy
99	Peyton	Manning	59	99	95	98
98	Tom	Brady	60	98	92	96
95	Carson	Palmer	56	89	97	95
94	Donovan	McNabb	79	84	95	87
93	Matt	Hasselbeck	64	91	92	91
92	Ben	Roethlisbergr	70	87	92	88
92	Daunte	Culpepper	77	79	98	84
92	Drew	Brees	62	88	89	95
92	Trent	Green	51	96	87	96
92	Jake	Delhomme	64	92	88	92
91	Michael	Vick	93	77	96	79
90	Marc	Bulger	57	90	89	94
90	Jake	Plummer	71	85	89	89
88	Brett	Favre	52	92	97	85
88	Byron	Leftwich	57	83	97	87
88	Eli	Manning	61	83	93	89
87	Mark	Brunell	65	86	89	88
87	Steve	McNair	68	83	91	85
87	Drew	Bledsoe	45	89	97	87
87	Kurt	Warner	46	92	89	93
86	Brad	Johnson	46	92	86	93
85	Rex	Grossman	59	81	89	90
85	Chad	Pennington	56	88	83	92
84	Chris	Simms	63	79	90	86
84	Aaron	Brooks	72	73	94	81
84	Billy	Volek	55	83	88	89
84	Matt	Schaub	63	78	88	90
84	David	Carr	67	77	95	80
83	Jon	Kitna	54	84	88	86
83	Kerry	Collins	47	81	95	86
83	Philip	Rivers	56	77	86	93

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QB QUARTERBACKS continued

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Strength	Awareness	Run Blocking	Pass Blocking
82	Matt	Leinart	59	69	90	90
82	Vince	Young	89	56	92	82
82	Alex	Smith	73	70	86	87
81	Jeff	Garcia	65	83	80	87
81	Charlie	Frye	71	72	87	85
81	David	Garrard	70	71	90	82
81	Trent	Dilfer	45	87	89	86
81	Brian	Griese	54	81	87	87
80	Kyle	Boller	69	73	93	78
80	Josh	McCown	73	73	88	80
79	Anthony	Wright	69	73	87	80
79	Jay	Cutler	68	60	93	86
79	Kelly	Holcomb	52	84	82	87
79	Aaron	Rodgers	66	68	90	84
78	Mike	McMahon	75	73	86	77
78	J.P.	Losman	70	67	92	78
78	Gus	Frerotte	52	80	87	84
78	Andrew	Walter	54	68	94	84
77	Patrick	Ramsey	55	75	92	81
77	Craig	Nall	60	68	88	84
77	Jason	Campbell	69	64	89	83
76	Joey	Harrington	60	72	89	79
76	Rohan	Davey	62	66	93	78
76	Jeff	Blake	60	77	88	76
76	Tim	Rattay	52	75	86	85
76	Seneca	Wallace	84	63	85	77
76	Charlie	Batch	45	80	85	84
75	Brodie	Croyle	55	62	92	86
75	Bruce	Gradkowski	69	54	85	92
75	Marques	Tuiasosopo	71	66	85	78
75	Tony	Romo	57	70	88	82
75	Jay	Fiedler	63	80	80	80
75	Kyle	Orton	55	74	87	80
74	Shaun	King	64	72	81	82
74	Ken	Dorsey	50	77	81	86
74	Kellen	Clemens	66	57	91	83
74	Chad	Hutchinson	55	72	88	80
74	Koy	Detmer	52	84	78	83
74	Todd	Collins	50	79	86	80
73	Brooks	Bollinger	65	65	81	84
73	Charlie	Whitehurst	62	62	81	88
73	Tommy	Maddox	47	75	86	84
73	Dan	Orlovsky	55	65	86	85
73	Bradlee	Van Pelt	73	64	84	77
73	Sage	Rosenfels	57	70	87	80

RG RIGHT GUARDS

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Strength	Awareness	Run Blocking	Pass Blocking
97	Will	Shields	91	97	94	93
95	Marco	Rivera	94	95	95	92
94	Randy	Thomas	92	87	89	97
93	Damien	Woody	93	87	93	90
91	Mike	Goff	94	93	94	85
90	Chris	Naeole	95	85	96	84
89	Kynan	Forney	87	84	87	91
89	Jermane	Mayberry	93	88	92	87
89	Benji	Olson	93	90	93	87
89	Chris	Snee	91	77	93	89
88	Chris	Villarrial	94	90	93	82
88	Adam	Timmerman	90	93	91	86

RG RIGHT GUARDS continued

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Strength	Awareness	Run Blocking	Pass Blocking
87	Shawn	Andrews	97	69	95	85
86	Chris	Gray	88	90	88	86
86	Brandon	Moore	89	77	89	85
86	Tom	Ashworth	85	87	85	89
85	Cooper	Carlisle	89	80	91	85
85	Eric	Heitmann	90	82	89	89
85	Kendall	Simmons	90	75	89	85
85	Steve	McKinney	87	86	83	86
84	Terrence	Metcalf	91	76	88	86
84	Stephen	Neal	89	77	88	86
82	Roberto	Garza	89	75	87	89
82	Justin	Smiley	87	72	86	82
82	Rex	Hadnot	90	71	88	85
82	Ron	Stone	91	88	91	80
81	Cosey	Coleman	89	78	86	83
80	Bobbie	Williams	93	78	88	82
80	Keydrick	Vincent	93	76	90	80
80	Matt	O'Dwyer	90	82	90	82
80	Davin	Joseph	86	64	86	85
80	Artis	Hicks	89	73	85	86
79	Barry	Stokes	90	80	83	85
79	Brad	Badger	88	80	87	85
79	Evan	Mathis	86	64	83	86
78	Milford	Brown	91	74	88	81
78	Jake	Scott	87	68	85	83
78	Sean	Mahan	82	73	84	85
77	Scott	Kooistra	90	72	83	84
77	Tutan	Reyes	90	72	87	80
77	Dwayne	Carswell	84	75	81	72
75	Elton	Brown	90	62	86	82
75	Junius	Coston	87	63	83	82
75	Tre'	Johnson	91	85	88	74
75	William	Whitticker	93	72	88	78
74	Mike	Pucillo	88	69	84	82
74	Martin	Bibla	86	67	86	79
74	Fred	Weary	86	66	84	80
74	Phil	Bogle	85	68	85	81
73	Dylan	Gandy	84	53	82	88
73	Richie	Incognito	86	45	88	79
73	Corey	Hulsey	85	68	81	82
73	Steve	Herndon	89	64	87	79

RT RIGHT TACKLES

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Strength	Awareness	Run Blocking	Pass Blocking
95	Willie	Anderson	97	97	98	91
94	Mark	Tauscher	92	96	91	97
93	Jordan	Gross	89	85	94	95
91	Jon	Jansen	97	90	98	86
90	Jon	Runyan	97	92	96	86
90	Ryan	Diem	95	80	91	97
90	Todd	Weiner	92	87	93	92
89	Kareem	McKenzie	95	86	96	88
88	Maurice	Williams	93	86	93	91
87	Jason	Fabini	92	91	92	85
86	Fred	Miller	93	85	90	89
86	George	Foster	94	77	94	88
86	Ryan	Tucker	94	88	92	86
85	Shane	Olivea	90	77	91	92
85	Mike	Williams	97	75	94	86
84	Alex	Barron	90	74	89	90

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RT RIGHT TACKLES continued

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Strength	Awareness	Run Blocking	Pass Blocking
84	Todd	Wade	93	82	93	85
84	Mike	Rosenthal	90	83	91	88
83	Kenyatta	Walker	86	82	87	86
83	Kevin	Barry	97	75	94	81
83	Zach	Wiegert	87	88	89	84
83	Kyle	Turley	84	80	85	92
83	Kwame	Harris	88	78	87	88
83	Orlando	Brown	95	86	92	83
83	Oliver	Ross	92	80	88	86
82	Jason	Peters	91	74	87	86
82	Vernon	Carey	92	75	91	85
82	Ryan	Young	90	82	90	88
82	Todd	Steussie	89	89	89	79
81	Langston	Walker	93	75	87	89
81	Max	Starks	91	74	91	86
80	Jordan	Black	90	79	89	85
80	Scott	Gragg	91	87	88	80
80	Brandon	Gorin	91	78	86	86
79	Marcus	Johnson	89	71	90	86
79	Damion	McIntosh	90	81	85	84
79	Adrian	Jones	82	71	84	88
78	Lewis	Kelly	88	74	86	84
78	Adam	Snyder	91	69	87	86
78	Victor	Riley	90	86	87	80
77	Leander	Jordan	89	73	85	83
77	Vaughn	Parker	90	85	86	79
76	Kenyatta	Jones	91	70	84	83
76	Rob	Petitti	90	70	86	82
76	Kelly	Butler	87	67	86	85
75	Jeremy	Trueblood	91	63	86	85

TE TIGHT ENDS

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Strength	Awareness	Catching	Run Blocking
98	Antonio	Gates	75	85	90	56
96	Tony	Gonzalez	69	94	92	55
95	Jeremy	Shockey	74	84	88	54
95	Alge	Crumpler	72	84	87	59
94	Todd	Heap	70	86	88	60
92	Jason	Witten	74	80	85	61
91	Randy	McMichael	73	75	84	57
89	Jermaine	Wiggins	72	85	88	58
88	Erron	Kinney	78	83	84	63
87	Jim	Kleinsasser	78	75	72	70
87	L.J.	Smith	69	76	82	58
87	Heath	Miller	69	72	87	57
86	Dallas	Clark	66	75	85	54
86	Eric	Johnson	67	84	88	55
86	Daniel	Graham	73	69	77	60
86	Ben	Watson	70	69	80	55
86	Ben	Troupe	73	67	83	55
86	Vernon	Davis	75	57	82	53
86	Bubba	Franks	78	85	78	66
85	Jerramy	Stevens	73	70	80	58

TE TIGHT ENDS continued

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Strength	Awareness	Catching	Pass Blocking
84	Kellen	Winslow	69	55	84	56
84	Kyle	Brady	82	84	68	75
84	Alex	Smith	68	71	84	55
84	Marcus	Pollard	70	82	78	58
84	Christian	Fauria	75	80	77	65
84	Jeb	Putzier	72	74	76	63
82	Chad	Lewis	69	85	78	63
81	Ernie	Conwell	72	80	72	66
81	Anthony	Becht	78	78	67	72
81	Itula	Mili	73	77	78	63
81	Dan	Campbell	73	76	76	64
80	Zach	Hilton	68	68	78	58
80	Doug	Jolley	64	77	83	50
80	Jason	Dunn	75	72	67	70
80	Marcedes	Lewis	73	62	80	57
79	Joe	Klopfenstein	67	66	79	55
79	Robert	Royal	70	72	75	58
79	Chris	Baker	65	68	75	60
79	Mark	Bruener	80	82	60	81
78	Anthony	Fasano	73	56	77	62
78	Leonard	Pope	69	45	78	59
78	Mark	Campbell	67	78	76	62
78	Dominique	Byrd	69	49	76	66
77	Rickey	Dudley	72	71	73	60
77	Reggie	Kelly	74	73	76	58
77	Steve	Heiden	73	75	72	59
77	Teyo	Johnson	63	63	77	54
77	Desmond	Clark	65	76	78	55
77	Tony	Scheffler	68	62	76	55
76	Brandon	Manumaleuna	80	70	72	59
76	Bryan	Fletcher	68	71	81	49
76	Boo	Williams	62	70	81	48
76	Courtney	Anderson	66	66	72	59
76	Donald	Lee	70	67	70	56
76	Kris	Mangum	68	67	72	61
75	Eric	Beverly	86	60	57	79
75	Stephen	Alexander	65	75	75	57
75	Daniel	Wilcox	74	74	74	55
75	Jerame	Tuman	73	73	68	67
75	David	Thomas	67	60	75	57
75	Darnell	Dinkins	72	65	71	60
75	Quinn	Sypniewski	72	55	72	58
75	Matt	Schobel	69	66	70	59
74	Jerome	Collins	58	60	72	61
74	Bo	Scaife	63	65	77	54
74	Kris	Wilson	63	68	79	50
74	George	Wrighster	68	68	74	53

WR WIDE RECEIVERS

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Speed	Accel.	Awareness	Catching
97	Randy	Moss	98	97	89	95
97	Terrell	Owens	93	96	92	94
97	Torry	Holt	93	95	97	98
97	Chad	Johnson	96	95	92	96
97	Marvin	Harrison	95	97	99	99
97	Steve	Smith	97	98	89	95
94	Hines	Ward	89	91	93	95
93	Larry	Fitzgerald	88	90	86	95
92	Anquan	Boldin	88	91	88	94
92	Reggie	Wayne	89	93	92	95

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WR WIDE RECEIVERS continued

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Speed	Accel.	Awareness	Catching
92	Santana	Moss	97	98	87	92
91	Chris	Chambers	95	94	85	88
90	Plaxico	Burress	92	90	81	88
90	Rod	Smith	89	87	97	93
90	Donald	Driver	91	92	89	91
90	Darrell	Jackson	90	92	89	90
90	Derrick	Mason	90	94	93	95
90	Joe	Horn	89	90	93	92
89	Isaac	Bruce	91	94	95	93
89	Andre	Johnson	95	94	78	86
89	Javon	Walker	92	93	84	88
89	Joey	Galloway	97	97	88	89
89	Jerry	Porter	92	91	81	88
89	Muhsin	Muhammad	90	87	94	91
88	Roy	Williams	93	91	74	89
88	Keyshawn	Johnson	86	85	90	91
88	Deion	Branch	94	96	86	89
88	Keenan	McCardell	87	85	95	95
88	Laveranues	Coles	98	96	85	88
87	Lee	Evans	96	96	78	88
87	Terry	Glenn	93	92	87	90
87	Nate	Burleson	91	92	81	89
87	T.J.	Houshmandz	88	91	85	88
87	Eric	Moulds	91	90	88	85
87	Eddie	Kennison	92	91	89	89
87	David	Givens	89	90	85	88
86	Antonio	Bryant	91	92	77	85
86	Donte	Stallworth	97	97	77	87
86	Drew	Bennett	89	87	88	87
86	Joe	Jurevicius	87	84	87	87
85	Koren	Robinson	93	94	75	85
85	Amani	Toomer	89	87	88	87
85	Antwaan	Randle El	94	97	75	84
85	Kevin	Curtis	96	95	79	86
85	Bobby	Engram	87	91	88	89
85	Brandon	Lloyd	88	90	77	92
84	Braylon	Edwards	91	92	68	86
84	Matt	Jones	93	90	65	84
84	Michael	Clayton	88	91	77	85
84	Marty	Booker	87	84	87	88
84	Mark	Clayton	92	95	75	87
83	Troy	Brown	89	87	91	85
83	Troy	Williamson	96	95	67	83
83	Brandon	Stokley	92	93	83	86
83	Ashley	Lelie	96	94	75	83
83	Reggie	Brown	90	92	69	85
82	Michael	Jenkins	89	87	72	86
82	Ernest	Wilford	85	86	76	86
82	Arnaz	Battle	89	87	75	86
81	David	Boston	90	88	70	84
81	Peter	Warrick	87	94	78	84
81	Roddy	White	93	95	64	82
81	Marcus	Robinson	90	85	77	85
81	Mike	Williams	85	87	63	86
80	Chris	Henry	92	94	60	84
80	Mark	Bradley	92	94	60	78
80	Justin	McCareins	90	87	74	79
80	Reche	Caldwell	90	90	75	82
80	Robert	Ferguson	91	89	74	79
79	Santonio	Holmes	94	95	58	82
79	Corey	Bradford	94	91	74	83
79	Andre	Davis	95	95	72	76
79	Samie	Parker	94	96	68	80

WR WIDE RECEIVERS continued

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Speed	Accel.	Awareness	Catching
79	Ike	Hilliard	87	86	85	84
79	Bryant	Johnson	91	92	69	83
79	David	Patten	92	90	80	82
79	Jerome	Pathon	89	90	77	85
79	Jabar	Gaffney	86	89	72	87
79	Johnnie	Morton	86	85	83	85
79	Dennis	Northcutt	93	95	74	79
79	Eric	Parker	89	90	78	82
79	Ronald	Curry	88	90	73	81
79	Travis	Taylor	90	88	73	81
78	Reggie	Williams	87	86	64	80
78	Chad	Jackson	94	92	52	82
78	Charles	Rogers	92	90	65	80
78	Ricky	Proehl	85	85	85	87
78	Dante	Hall	97	99	72	74
78	Derek	Hagan	88	91	64	82
78	Rod	Gardner	87	85	72	78
78	Sinorice	Moss	96	97	62	79
78	Keary	Colbert	87	86	74	84
78	Kevin	Johnson	87	86	80	85
78	Brian	Finneran	85	82	79	81
77	Troy	Edwards	88	89	72	80
77	Brandon	Williams	91	92	62	82
77	Mike	Hass	86	87	63	85
77	Cedrick	Wilson	91	91	75	78
77	Peerless	Price	92	92	74	76
77	Brandon	Jones	90	90	61	82
77	Clarence	Moore	87	85	66	77
77	Doug	Gabriel	88	90	68	77
77	Todd	Pinkston	90	89	77	82
77	Tyrone	Calico	92	92	63	72
76	Skyler	Green	93	96	54	75
76	Roscoe	Parrish	94	97	54	78
76	Quincy	Morgan	91	89	67	76
76	Justin	Gage	86	88	64	75
76	D.J.	Hackett	88	91	65	78
76	Bobby	Wade	90	92	74	78
76	Josh	Reed	85	87	74	83
76	Greg	Lewis	93	92	70	81
76	Patrick	Crayton	91	88	55	88
76	Shaun	McDonald	93	94	67	78
76	Taylor	Jacobs	91	91	67	80
76	Kelley	Washington	90	90	63	75
76	Dez	White	93	88	70	76
75	Darius	Watts	93	92	65	75
75	Bernard	Berrian	95	95	61	75
75	Travis	Wilson	88	85	64	78
75	Bethel	Johnson	98	95	64	72
75	Az-Zahir	Hakim	95	93	70	76
75	Jason	Avant	87	87	60	81
75	Maurice	Stovall	87	88	60	77
75	Darnerien	McCants	87	85	69	75
75	Greg	Jennings	90	93	62	78
75	Terrence	Murphy	92	93	53	75
75	Demetrius	Williams	90	94	55	78
75	Jerricho	Cotchery	87	88	69	77
74	Jerome	Mathis	97	95	55	76
74	Kassim	Osgood	87	86	64	74
74	Antonio	Chatman	91	93	69	75
74	Vincent	Jackson	89	86	56	77
74	Freddie	Mitchell	88	89	62	80
74	Rashaun	Woods	87	87	60	79
73	Scottie	Vines	91	91	60	74

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DEFENSIVE PLAYERS

CB CORNERBACKS

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Speed	Accel.	Awareness	Catching
99	Champ	Bailey	98	98	93	82
97	Ty	Law	91	93	97	84
95	Chris	McAlister	94	97	92	68
94	Ronde	Barber	88	95	95	75
94	Ken	Lucas	92	94	88	77
93	DeAngelo	Hall	98	98	83	76
92	Patrick	Surtain	90	95	94	79
92	Antoine	Winfield	91	92	92	68
92	Rashean	Mathis	94	93	77	78
91	Samari	Rolle	93	94	93	75
91	Shawn	Springs	94	94	90	65
90	Nate	Clements	92	94	82	69
90	Sam	Madison	91	92	96	67
90	Marcus	Trufant	94	98	80	68
90	Dunta	Robinson	96	97	78	72
90	Deltha	O'Neal	95	95	78	83
90	Nathan	Vasher	90	92	82	84
90	Dre'	Bly	93	96	86	82
89	Sheldon	Brown	91	94	84	75
89	Brian	Kelly	88	91	88	70
89	Al	Harris	88	93	92	63
89	Mike	McKenzie	89	93	91	63
89	Anthony	Henry	88	90	85	75
88	Chris	Gamble	92	94	74	79
88	Charles	Woodson	90	90	85	68
88	Gary	Baxter	88	90	85	70
88	Lito	Sheppard	92	94	80	75
88	Charles	Tillman	88	91	80	73
87	Tory	James	86	85	86	80
87	Fred	Smoot	92	95	83	72
87	Terrence	McGee	94	95	83	71
87	Brian	Williams	88	90	82	74
87	David	Barrett	87	89	84	71
87	Terence	Newman	96	97	76	74
86	Ricky	Manning	90	94	79	75
86	Deshea	Townsend	88	90	90	67
86	Darrent	Williams	97	98	76	74
85	Asante	Samuel	91	94	80	72
85	Ike	Taylor	94	94	77	59
85	William	Peterson	93	91	73	67
85	Nick	Harper	87	86	82	77
85	Aaron	Glenn	90	92	90	65
84	Domonique	Foxworth	93	96	76	67
84	Justin	Miller	95	97	65	72
84	Quentin	Jammer	95	90	72	65
84	Andre	Dyson	94	95	75	74
84	Fernando	Bryant	95	94	83	65
84	Kelly	Herndon	88	90	81	64
83	Antrel	Rolle	88	92	68	70
83	Carlos	Rogers	90	92	72	66
83	Will	Allen	98	97	79	55
83	Marlin	Jackson	88	92	74	64
83	Phillip	Buchanon	97	96	71	71
83	Daylon	McCutcheon	87	87	84	64
83	Shawntae	Spencer	91	92	75	67

CB CORNERBACKS continued

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Speed	Accel.	Awareness	Catching
82	Jason	Craft	91	90	75	68
82	Reynaldo	Hill	89	91	76	69
82	Pacman	Jones	96	97	66	71
82	Jason	David	88	96	74	79
81	Eric	Warfield	86	87	83	66
81	R.W.	McQuarters	90	92	82	67
81	David	Macklin	87	87	76	64
81	Jason	Webster	87	87	81	62
81	Walt	Harris	87	86	85	64
81	Drayton	Florence	91	92	72	64
81	Tyrone	Poole	90	91	86	68
80	Bryant	McFadden	89	92	74	58
80	Nnamdi	Asomugha	90	91	69	64
80	Johnathan	Joseph	94	96	62	65
80	Fred	Thomas	86	86	85	63
80	Corey	Webster	87	91	70	67
80	Reggie	Howard	88	87	80	62
80	Jerametrius	Butler	91	90	75	68
80	Kenny	Wright	88	89	78	60
80	Ellis	Hobbs	91	92	75	68
80	Roderick	Hood	90	91	74	62
80	Dewayne	Washington	87	85	84	62
80	Tye	Hill	98	97	62	65
79	Juran	Bolden	87	89	73	62
79	Travis	Daniels	87	90	72	62
79	Randall	Gay	88	89	72	68
79	Kelly	Jennings	94	93	64	64
79	Travis	Fisher	91	92	70	65
79	Renaldo	Hill	87	87	79	63
79	Jimmy	Williams	94	93	52	69
79	Eric	Green	89	90	70	68
79	Fakhir	Brown	87	86	79	63
79	Fabian	Washington	98	97	63	62
79	Leigh	Bodden	89	91	70	65
78	Terry	Cousin	88	90	80	57
78	Ricardo	Colclough	91	93	63	69
78	Duane	Starks	91	90	78	62
78	Antonio	Cromartie	94	92	45	75
78	Denard	Walker	90	87	76	64
78	Will	Poole	87	90	64	70
78	Willie	Williams	86	87	85	58
78	Ahmad	Carroll	96	97	65	62
78	Richard	Marshall	92	94	59	70
78	Lenny	Walls	87	85	76	57
77	Kiwaukee	Thomas	87	88	76	62
77	Keiwan	Ratliff	88	93	63	75
77	Andre	Woolfolk	92	91	65	68
77	Sammy	Davis	91	92	68	64
77	Jamar	Fletcher	87	92	70	72
76	Derrick	Strait	87	88	65	68
76	Alan	Zemaitis	87	87	60	67
76	Ronald	Bartell	92	92	59	61
76	Ashton	Youboty	92	92	59	57
75	Pete	Hunter	91	90	68	58
75	Ray	Mickens	90	85	74	58
75	Terrell	Buckley	86	86	82	62

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CB CORNERBACKS continued

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Speed	Accel.	Awareness	Catching
75	Cedric	Griffin	88	89	61	62
75	Mike	Rumph	88	87	64	60
75	DeJuan	Groce	90	91	72	64
75	Kevin	Thomas	88	91	69	61
75	Donald	Strickland	88	91	65	62
75	Artrell	Hawkins	88	89	72	60
75	Karl	Paymah	93	90	62	57
74	Dante	Wesley	89	89	70	58
74	Kevin	Mathis	85	86	77	58
74	Stanford	Routt	95	94	56	64
74	Von	Hutchins	90	92	65	60
74	Andre	Goodman	93	90	67	58
74	Joey	Thomas	92	94	55	65
74	Michael	Waddell	95	94	54	65
74	Curtis	Deloatch	89	88	68	60
73	Matt	Ware	87	89	56	65
73	DeMario	Minter	92	93	64	50
73	Devin	Hester	98	97	45	70
73	David	Pittman	91	93	56	66
73	Kelvin	Hayden	90	94	43	74
73	Will	Blackmon	90	95	45	74

DT DEFENSIVE TACKLES

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Speed	Strength	Awareness	Tackling
97	Casey	Hampton	58	98	86	97
97	Marcus	Stroud	66	94	80	89
96	Jamal	Williams	54	98	88	93
95	Shaun	Rogers	63	96	80	92
94	Rod	Coleman	75	84	84	84
94	Pat	Williams	52	96	92	95
94	John	Henderson	62	95	81	92
93	Kris	Jenkins	64	93	77	88
92	Anthony	McFarland	64	90	81	87
92	Kevin	Williams	70	87	79	86
92	Corey	Simon	65	87	85	85
91	Tommie	Harris	74	87	71	85
91	La'Roi	Glover	64	85	94	85
90	Cornelius	Griffin	65	87	81	88
89	Vince	Wilfork	64	92	72	88
89	Ted	Washington	44	99	90	94
89	Albert	Haynesworth	64	92	67	88
89	Sam	Adams	47	96	91	92
87	Vonnie	Holliday	63	88	84	86
87	Darwin	Walker	66	86	77	85
87	Rocky	Bernard	64	87	70	85
87	Robaire	Smith	65	88	77	87
86	Gerard	Warren	63	92	69	86
86	Dan	Wilkinson	48	96	84	89
86	Darnell	Dockett	71	87	68	81
86	Seth	Payne	53	90	87	88
86	Chris	Hovan	66	84	75	80
86	John	Thornton	62	86	80	85
86	Warren	Sapp	65	82	88	75
85	Grady	Jackson	46	95	81	91
85	Raheem	Brock	76	76	76	82
85	Ryan	Pickett	65	85	70	85
85	Keith	Traylor	47	93	87	90
85	Jason	Ferguson	55	90	80	87
85	Cletidus	Hunt	63	85	72	85
85	Larry	Tripplett	65	84	76	83

DT DEFENSIVE TACKLES continued

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Speed	Strength	Awareness	Tackling
85	Mike	Patterson	63	86	70	82
85	Brentson	Buckner	54	88	88	85
84	Randy	Starks	64	87	65	84
84	Ian	Scott	64	86	74	85
84	Jason	Fisk	57	86	85	85
84	Kelly	Gregg	54	87	85	87
83	Dewayne	Robertson	64	86	67	82
83	Montae	Reagor	66	79	77	81
83	Jeff	Zgonina	55	84	88	83
83	Marcus	Tubbs	62	91	65	82
83	Chartric	Darby	67	80	71	83
83	Haloti	Ngata	63	93	55	86
82	Chris	Hoke	57	90	75	90
82	Brodrick	Bunkley	65	84	60	84
82	Ryan	Sims	62	84	68	84
82	Russell	Davis	56	90	71	86
82	Edward	Jasper	52	88	84	85
81	Damione	Lewis	64	84	72	80
80	Brian	Young	63	78	79	78
80	Kendrick	Clancy	54	88	70	87
80	Jimmy	Kennedy	57	89	68	84
80	Shaun	Cody	64	83	66	79
80	Cedric	Woodard	55	89	73	85
80	Bryan	Robinson	58	79	80	85
80	Fred	Robbins	54	88	75	86
80	Ma'ake	Kemoeatu	50	90	74	89
80	Hollis	Thomas	48	90	82	89
79	Travis	Johnson	65	84	57	80
79	Cullen	Jenkins	66	82	70	78
79	Rob	Meier	62	80	72	83
79	Michael	Myers	64	84	68	80
79	Johnathan	Sullivan	64	84	62	83
78	Dan	Klecko	66	82	70	77
78	Tommy	Kelly	64	82	61	81
78	William	Joseph	64	82	69	79
78	Tank	Johnson	70	80	64	76
77	Lional	Dalton	47	88	78	86
77	Tim	Anderson	55	84	72	83
77	Colin	Cole	56	89	65	83
77	Anthony	Adams	61	83	68	80
77	Chad	Lavalais	64	79	69	77
77	Kindal	Moorehead	58	83	70	79
77	Josh	Williams	62	83	73	76
76	Isaac	Sopoaga	55	93	55	84
76	Marcus	Bell	48	91	68	82
76	Ellis	Wyms	65	79	68	78
76	Willie	Whitehead	64	82	70	78
75	Brandon	Noble	48	85	73	85
75	Ethan	Kelley	56	86	68	83
75	John	Browning	62	80	70	77
75	Ron	Edwards	58	86	67	76
75	Jonathan	Babineaux	67	79	57	75
75	Jerry	DeLoach	53	86	73	80
75	Michael	Haynes	68	78	68	76
75	John	McCargo	66	82	55	77
75	Rien	Long	64	78	65	76
74	Alfonso	Boone	54	87	70	78
74	Lance	Legree	58	85	70	79
74	Justin	Bannan	53	86	69	80
74	Gabe	Watson	57	94	49	85
74	Damane	Duckett	60	84	64	79
73	Orien	Harris	56	87	39	84
73	Sam	Rayburn	60	83	65	77

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DT DEFENSIVE TACKLES continued

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Speed	Strength	Awareness	Tackling
73	Aubrayo	Franklin	54	87	64	81
73	James	Reed	61	78	68	78
73	Kyle	Williams	59	83	63	77
73	Jared	Clauss	53	86	62	84
73	C.J.	Mosley	59	83	63	78
73	Claude	Wroten	63	84	49	82
72	Sione	Pouha	62	87	50	77
72	Dwan	Edwards	56	87	58	76
72	Donnell	Washington	63	86	44	76
72	Barry	Cofield	67	80	55	75

FS FREE SAFETIES

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Speed	Strength	Awareness	Tackling
98	Brian	Dawkins	90	63	92	80
96	Darren	Sharper	88	60	92	70
95	Sean	Taylor	91	71	71	85
94	John	Lynch	83	70	97	90
90	Bob	Sanders	93	60	78	87
90	Mike	Minter	86	63	90	85
89	Eugene	Wilson	90	63	79	72
88	Troy	Vincent	85	54	90	60
87	Dwight	Smith	91	63	74	63
87	Brian	Russell	85	55	80	64
87	Deon	Grant	89	57	75	62
86	Greg	Wesley	84	66	74	77
86	Erik	Coleman	87	54	78	75
86	Nick	Collins	93	64	66	75
86	Madieu	Williams	88	63	66	72
86	Will	Demps	85	66	85	77
85	Marlon	McCree	85	64	80	74
85	Ken	Hamlin	87	64	68	84
85	Robert	Griffith	81	58	90	73
84	Michael	Huff	93	62	62	74
84	Marcus	Coleman	86	54	85	60
84	Stuart	Schweigert	89	59	73	70
84	Lance	Schulters	85	62	87	65
83	Jerome	Woods	86	60	82	66
83	Chris	Crocker	90	56	72	72
83	Lamont	Thompson	87	59	72	60
83	Michael	Green	86	59	76	78
82	William	Bartee	88	52	75	60
82	Ryan	Clark	87	58	72	71
81	Will	Allen	86	58	67	70
81	Deke	Cooper	87	65	74	70
80	Jason	Allen	92	66	58	69
80	Chris	Harris	87	59	64	68
79	Kevin	Kaesviharn	80	60	81	65
78	Omar	Stoutmire	82	63	81	72
78	Daniel	Bullocks	87	57	62	68
78	Roman	Harper	85	55	68	74
77	Mike	Adams	85	54	67	65
77	C.C.	Brown	86	62	65	71
77	Rashad	Baker	86	55	66	63

FS FREE SAFETIES continued

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Speed	Strength	Awareness	Tackling
77	Brent	Alexander	81	64	75	70
77	Yeremiah	Bell	85	58	66	70
77	Ronnie	Heard	83	56	75	65
77	Shaunard	Harts	84	58	71	74
76	O.J.	Atogwe	88	62	61	65
76	Anthony	Smith	88	52	66	60
76	Keith	Davis	82	62	70	72
76	Danieal	Manning	91	57	52	65
76	Ko	Simpson	89	64	47	74
75	Jerry	Wilson	85	50	70	58
75	Pat	Watkins	89	52	48	65
75	Idrees	Bashir	87	50	70	58
74	Dwaine	Carpenter	83	60	68	68
74	Nate	Salley	84	66	60	71
74	Terrence	Holt	84	55	66	56
73	Jason	Simmons	86	49	67	57
72	Marviel	Underwood	86	52	62	64
72	Dawan	Landry	85	65	56	70
72	Bhawoh	Jue	90	52	54	65
72	Rashad	Washington	84	63	58	71
71	Tyrone	Carter	82	58	64	68

LE LEFT DEFENSIVE ENDS

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Speed	Strength	Awareness	Tackling
97	Julius	Peppers	86	82	75	77
97	Michael	Strahan	76	86	96	85
94	Leonard	Little	84	77	82	76
93	Shaun	Ellis	70	89	84	90
93	Jevon	Kearse	85	73	80	74
93	Patrick	Kerney	76	76	90	86
92	Trevor	Pryce	68	92	86	88
91	Adewale	Ogunleye	84	73	81	75
90	Will	Smith	80	80	72	79
89	Aaron	Smith	69	86	86	85
89	Kevin	Carter	67	88	87	84
89	Bryant	Young	64	88	94	90
89	Reggie	Hayward	78	78	77	81
89	Robert	Mathis	85	67	75	74
88	Aaron	Kampman	74	85	75	84
88	Kyle	Vanden Bosch	72	81	82	82
87	Chike	Okeafor	78	75	85	75
87	Ty	Warren	68	85	77	87
87	Gary	Walker	63	92	89	87
87	Andre	Carter	76	75	80	79
86	Justin	Smith	74	81	78	79
85	Anthony	Weaver	67	84	76	83
85	Greg	Spires	74	75	77	78
85	Bryce	Fisher	74	78	74	81
84	Kenechi	Udeze	70	79	72	77
84	Renaldo	Wynn	63	86	88	87
84	Courtney	Brown	74	82	72	82
84	Eric	Hicks	73	77	86	77
84	Orpheus	Roye	63	88	82	87
83	Dewayne	White	74	75	67	74
83	Luis	Castillo	64	91	67	85
83	Marcus	Spears	69	82	66	82
83	Bobby	Hamilton	65	82	86	84
82	Tyler	Brayton	70	77	70	81
81	Ebenezer	Ekuban	72	74	74	78
80	Marcellus	Wiley	67	81	85	75

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LE LEFT DEFENSIVE ENDS continued

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Speed	Strength	Awareness	Tackling
80	Monsanto	Pope	62	83	72	83
80	Ndukwe	Kalu	75	69	78	76
80	Al	Wallace	73	74	77	76
79	Cory	Redding	67	83	68	78
78	Chris	Kelsay	69	74	75	77
77	Matt	Roth	72	72	56	75
76	Marquise	Hill	65	81	45	78
76	Ryan	Denney	65	81	77	74
76	Travis	Hall	64	82	76	83
76	Victor	Adeyanju	83	70	36	68
76	Jerome	McDougle	77	68	65	70
76	Tyoka	Jackson	65	81	75	72
75	Jimmy	Verdon	65	81	64	74
75	Justin	Tuck	75	66	46	71
75	Rodney	Bailey	65	78	71	75
74	Melvin	Oliver	65	83	55	79
73	Chauncey	Davis	74	66	45	74
73	Kenyon	Coleman	72	76	59	70
73	Adrian	Awasom	72	77	55	73

LOLB LEFT OUTSIDE LINEBACKERS

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Speed	Strength	Awareness	Tackling
93	Marcus	Washington	83	76	85	91
93	Willie	McGinest	79	77	97	90
92	Shawne	Merriman	86	81	76	88
91	D.J.	Williams	86	74	78	86
91	Jamie	Sharper	78	78	87	92
90	Clark	Haggans	76	82	89	90
90	LaVar	Arrington	87	78	73	87
89	David	Thornton	77	74	87	88
88	Derrick	Johnson	87	71	75	85
87	Kirk	Morrison	78	79	75	93
87	Anthony	Simmons	81	75	85	86
86	Na'il	Diggs	79	76	80	89
86	Dhani	Jones	80	76	81	85
86	Boss	Bailey	88	72	72	79
85	A.J.	Hawk	87	73	65	85
85	Junior	Seau	74	72	95	85
84	Keith	Adams	82	68	78	86
84	Kailee	Wong	75	74	87	86
84	Leroy	Hill	83	73	75	86
84	Bart	Scott	77	80	79	87
84	Jeff	Posey	77	74	85	85
83	Landon	Johnson	81	68	74	84
82	Al	Singleton	76	73	82	84
82	Bobby	Carpenter	86	70	60	84
82	Victor	Hobson	75	79	76	86
82	Brandon	Chillar	78	74	73	84
82	Rocky	Calmus	73	77	80	88
82	David	Pollack	77	76	74	84
81	Ben	Leber	78	73	77	85
81	E.J.	Henderson	72	80	74	88
80	Keith	Newman	73	70	83	84
79	Ryan	Nece	79	67	75	81
79	Hunter	Hillenmeyer	73	74	77	87
78	Gilbert	Gardner	77	69	70	80
78	Clint	Ingram	84	68	63	78
78	Matt	Stewart	73	76	77	83
78	Reggie	Torbor	82	67	70	80
78	Hannibal	Navies	76	70	76	80

LOLB LEFT OUTSIDE LINEBACKERS continued

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Speed	Strength	Awareness	Tackling
78	Kevin	Bentley	78	73	70	80
78	Rocky	Boiman	74	73	78	83
78	Donnie	Spragan	75	73	74	84
78	Michael	Boley	80	68	68	80
77	Jamie	Winborn	80	65	72	79
77	James	Harrison	76	81	66	83
77	Tully	Banta-Cain	78	71	74	78
77	Ike	Reese	74	70	78	79
76	Sedrick	Hodge	83	66	68	78
75	Freddie	Keiaho	84	69	57	75
75	Eddie	Moore	79	70	65	78
75	Robert	McCune	85	72	58	79
75	Parys	Haralson	76	72	70	80
74	James	Allen	78	75	65	78
74	Mario	Haggan	75	69	68	80
74	Sam	Williams	80	70	67	77
73	Pat	Thomas	78	72	66	75

MLB MIDDLE LINEBACKERS

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Speed	Strength	Awareness	Tackling
98	Ray	Lewis	83	75	98	96
98	Brian	Urlacher	88	78	92	95
96	Zach	Thomas	75	78	98	96
95	Al	Wilson	86	75	92	94
94	James	Farrior	79	80	91	92
93	Jeremiah	Trotter	77	80	93	92
93	Mike	Peterson	85	72	91	93
92	Jonathan	Vilma	85	69	88	93
92	Dan	Morgan	85	76	88	90
92	London	Fletcher	78	68	93	95
91	Antonio	Pierce	85	76	88	89
91	Donnie	Edwards	85	66	95	87
90	Derek	Smith	76	77	92	92
90	Mike	Vrabel	74	82	91	90
90	Andra	Davis	77	78	87	93
90	Karlos	Dansby	86	77	82	92
89	Will	Witherspoon	86	70	85	89
89	Shelton	Quarles	77	74	90	90
89	Tedy	Bruschi	74	78	96	88
89	Nick	Barnett	81	77	82	93
88	Ed	Hartwell	77	83	82	92
88	Lofa	Tatupu	84	77	81	90
87	Danny	Clark	80	77	83	91
87	Lemar	Marshall	85	69	86	88
86	Akin	Ayodele	82	74	82	88
86	Eric	Barton	78	75	84	90
86	Odell	Thurman	84	76	79	89
86	Sam	Cowart	73	81	88	88
86	Randall	Godfrey	75	73	90	88
86	Gary	Brackett	81	72	85	89
85	Larry	Foote	77	74	82	89
85	Earl	Holmes	73	79	88	87
85	Jeff	Ulbrich	76	74	86	89
85	Brad	Kassell	72	72	87	91
85	Peter	Sirmon	75	75	86	87
84	Kawika	Mitchell	78	77	79	87
83	Chris	Claiborne	79	74	84	86
83	Bradie	James	79	78	76	89
83	Ronald	McKinnon	73	75	86	87
82	James	Darling	77	75	84	85

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MLB MIDDLE LINEBACKERS continued

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Speed	Strength	Awareness	Tackling
82	Rob	Morris	74	76	84	85
81	Michael	Barrow	72	73	87	84
81	Chaun	Thompson	85	74	73	86
79	Barrett	Ruud	75	76	75	86
79	Nate	Webster	79	68	77	85
79	Napoleon	Harris	82	73	74	85
79	Wali	Rainer	74	77	78	87
78	Monty	Beisel	76	74	78	83
78	Clint	Kriewaldt	70	79	75	88
77	Mark	Simoneau	80	71	78	80
77	Teddy	Lehman	84	69	77	80
77	Brandon	Moore	78	74	73	82
77	D'Qwell	Jackson	82	70	70	85
76	Kevin	Lewis	76	74	75	84
76	Niko	Koutouvides	75	74	70	84
76	Abdul	Hodge	81	72	68	87
76	Colby	Bockwoldt	78	69	72	87
76	Orlando	Ruff	72	74	75	84
75	Brant	Boyer	76	70	75	82
74	DaShon	Polk	74	70	73	82
74	Stephen	Tulloch	78	70	67	84
74	Anthony	Schlegel	70	82	66	87
73	Artie	Ulmer	66	79	73	83
73	Trev	Faulk	76	74	74	79

P PUNTERS

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Awareness	Kick Power	Kick Accuracy	Tackling
99	Shane	Lechler	85	97	92	18
98	Brian	Moorman	80	94	92	19
96	Todd	Sauerbrun	75	94	91	26
93	Scott	Player	92	89	92	22
92	Mitch	Berger	88	89	92	23
91	Craig	Hentrich	90	90	90	12
90	Josh	Miller	84	88	92	25
90	Hunter	Smith	78	90	91	14
89	Chris	Gardocki	92	88	90	15
88	Josh	Bidwell	80	92	87	23
87	Brad	Maynard	89	87	90	12
86	Chris	Hanson	74	91	87	12
85	Jeff	Feagles	96	83	92	19
84	Mike	Scifres	68	91	87	22
84	Jason	Baker	74	88	89	14
83	Dave	Zastudil	67	91	86	12
82	Ben	Graham	55	92	86	39
82	Tom	Tupa	88	87	87	24
80	Matt	Turk	90	85	87	13
80	Chris	Kluwe	64	87	89	20
79	Donnie	Jones	62	90	85	23
79	Sean	Landeta	95	83	88	12
79	Michael	Koenen	58	93	82	14
78	Nick	Harris	70	91	82	13
78	Kyle	Richardson	72	88	85	21
78	Tom	Rouen	84	87	84	17

P PUNTERS continued

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Awareness	Kick Power	Kick Accuracy	Tackling
77	Andy	Lee	64	88	86	35
77	Bryan	Barker	80	87	84	15
77	Rodney	Williams	71	92	80	21
77	Dirk	Johnson	68	87	86	33
76	Leo	Araguz	87	83	87	18

RE RIGHT DEFENSIVE ENDS

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Speed	Strength	Awareness	Tackling
98	Dwight	Freeney	87	76	84	76
97	Richard	Seymour	72	92	88	88
96	Jason	Taylor	82	74	91	83
95	Simeon	Rice	84	74	93	76
93	John	Abraham	80	77	77	83
93	Bertrand	Berry	79	78	84	81
92	Terrell	Suggs	86	72	70	78
91	Osi	Umenyiora	84	74	72	77
91	Mike	Rucker	74	79	90	84
91	Aaron	Schobel	74	79	83	84
91	Charles	Grant	75	82	73	83
90	Derrick	Burgess	79	73	82	79
89	Darren	Howard	74	81	79	84
89	Kabeer	Gbaja Biamila	84	72	75	74
89	Grant	Wistrom	70	82	95	83
88	Alex	Brown	82	72	75	76
87	Jared	Allen	79	72	74	79
87	Phillip	Daniels	65	87	86	88
87	Greg	Ellis	74	78	85	79
86	Mario	Williams	85	75	40	76
86	James	Hall	73	82	76	80
86	Erasmus	James	78	72	66	75
84	Lance	Johnstone	79	67	84	72
84	Kimo	von Oelhoffen	64	87	87	87
84	Brady	Smith	72	76	87	80
84	Marques	Douglas	71	78	76	80
84	Jarvis	Green	68	84	67	83
83	Trent	Cole	76	74	65	75
83	Jason	Babin	79	69	68	75
83	Kalimba	Edwards	78	70	74	72
82	Kenard	Lang	71	74	80	80
81	Paul	Spicer	66	82	76	82
81	Antwan	Peek	79	68	67	75
80	John	Engelberger	69	78	76	78
80	Igor	Olshansky	62	88	65	82
79	Tamba	Hali	65	81	60	80
79	Travis	LaBoy	75	70	65	73
79	Duane	Clemons	69	72	82	74
79	Antonio	Cochran	64	84	74	81
79	Chris	Canty	70	80	65	77
79	Brett	Keisel	73	75	68	76
78	Roderick	Green	83	64	49	72
78	Darryl	Tapp	74	74	50	80
78	Mark	Word	72	76	70	75
78	Mathias	Kiwanuka	78	72	46	74
77	Carlos	Hall	77	67	66	70
77	Tony	Hargrove	75	67	65	71
77	David	Bowens	74	69	72	72
76	Robert	Geathers	75	68	66	69
75	Travis	Kirschke	60	86	72	83
75	Elvis	Dumervil	74	67	52	66
75	Akbar	Gbaja Biamila	75	70	64	70

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RE RIGHT DEFENSIVE ENDS continued

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Speed	Strength	Awareness	Tackling
75	Alvin	McKinley	56	89	72	83
75	Kenny	Smith	64	81	69	77
75	Antwan	Odom	75	69	54	69
74	Jacques	Cesaire	69	78	60	78
74	Tony	Bryant	66	80	68	75

ROLB RIGHT OUTSIDE LINEBACKERS

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Speed	Strength	Awareness	Tackling
97	Derrick	Brooks	82	72	98	89
97	Joey	Porter	85	77	92	90
96	Julian	Peterson	86	74	88	91
96	Keith	Bulluck	86	73	86	90
95	Takeo	Spikes	82	84	92	92
95	Keith	Brooking	82	79	90	92
91	Ian	Gold	88	69	82	85
91	Lance	Briggs	78	78	85	92
89	Rosevelt	Colvin	80	79	85	87
89	Adalius	Thomas	85	78	75	86
88	Pisa	Tinoisamoa	87	67	75	85
88	Carlos	Emmons	77	74	89	88
87	Brian	Simmons	82	71	85	85
87	Cato	June	84	63	82	84
86	Dexter	Coakley	83	72	86	82
86	Steve	Foley	83	78	85	83
86	Shawn	Barber	82	67	85	80
86	Morlon	Greenwood	85	67	81	85
86	Demarcus	Ware	84	76	70	87
85	Thomas	Davis	87	69	65	85
85	Peter	Boulware	80	74	85	85
85	Kendrell	Bell	77	81	80	89
84	Daryl	Smith	79	74	75	84
84	Chris	Draft	78	74	80	82
84	Chad	Brown	76	74	87	85
83	Ernie	Sims	86	73	58	85
83	Channing	Crowder	79	76	68	87
83	Warrick	Holdman	78	76	79	84
83	Ben	Taylor	77	75	79	88
82	Scott	Fujita	81	73	76	80
82	Chad	Greenway	85	70	63	85
82	Tommy	Polley	85	66	75	77
81	Kamerion	Wimbley	83	73	60	84
80	Brandon	Short	77	76	72	84
80	D.D.	Lewis	77	75	79	80
79	Demorrio	Williams	85	67	69	78
79	James	Davis	77	66	75	80
79	Rocky	McIntosh	83	69	60	84
79	Barrett	Green	80	67	76	79
79	Dontarrious		Thomas	85	71	65
80						
79	Nick	Greisen	73	77	77	86
79	DeMeco	Ryans	78	69	65	84
79	Manny	Lawson	90	69	58	79
78	Orlando	Huff	73	77	76	85
78	Robert	Thomas	79	68	75	77
78	Isaiah	Kacyvenski	73	76	80	83
78	Shaun	Phillips	79	74	72	80
77	Thomas	Howard	87	75	55	75
76	Saleem	Rasheed	79	68	70	81
76	T.J.	Slaughter	76	75	68	85
76	Angelo	Crowell	75	73	68	84

SS STRONG SAFETIES

Overall Rating	First Name	Last Name	Speed	Strength	Awareness	Tackling
99	Ed	Reed	93	57	93	67
98	Troy	Polamalu	93	69	80	87
94	Roy	Williams	85	75	85	90
94	Rodney	Harrison	82	74	94	92
93	Donovin	Darius	88	75	86	93
92	Michael	Lewis	87	67	83	87
92	Lawyer	Milloy	84	70	92	85
91	Tony	Parrish	84	66	89	73
90	Adrian	Wilson	88	70	77	87
89	Mike	Brown	86	57	87	68
89	Adam	Archuleta	85	74	84	87
88	Michael	Boulware	86	68	71	83
87	Gibril	Wilson	89	67	70	84
87	Sammy	Knight	79	65	87	83
86	Chris	Hope	89	68	75	75
86	Nick	Ferguson	83	67	81	82
86	Tank	Williams	88	67	75	84
86	Kenoy	Kennedy	85	69	78	92
85	Corey	Chavous	85	54	88	60
85	Shaun	Williams	87	58	80	76
84	Jermaine	Phillips	87	69	73	84
84	Dexter	Jackson	85	54	84	67
82	Mike	Doss	86	60	73	80
82	Jay	Bellamy	82	61	85	74
82	Brodney	Pool	90	61	66	68
82	Kim	Herring	83	64	86	70
82	Josh	Bullocks	90	59	67	66
82	Donte	Whitner	92	60	60	78
81	Marquand	Manuel	85	63	73	77
81	Sean	Jones	90	62	65	72
81	Travares	Tillman	85	64	75	72
81	Reggie	Tongue	83	61	75	77
80	Pierson	Prioleau	84	60	80	78
80	Mike	Logan	83	71	82	73
80	Terrence	Kiel	85	68	71	83
79	Glenn	Earl	86	65	68	74
79	Derrick	Gibson	87	62	67	73
78	Chad	Williams	81	66	70	76
78	Kerry	Rhodes	87	65	66	75
78	Tebucky	Jones	88	58	70	65
78	Matt	Bowen	84	62	78	74
78	Antuan	Edwards	86	57	75	65
78	Bernard	Pollard	86	72	60	78
77	Mark	Roman	88	54	68	70
77	Earl	Little	85	50	74	52
77	Ifeanyi	Ohalete	84	60	72	74
76	Darnell	Bing	87	74	48	85
75	Greg	Blue	88	68	54	77
75	Marques	Anderson	84	55	70	68
75	Coy	Wire	85	65	68	80
75	Keion	Carpenter	86	57	69	67
75	James	Sanders	82	70	64	74
75	Jon	McGraw	87	56	69	68
75	Mel	Mitchell	86	63	65	70
75	Sam	Brandon	88	54	66	72
75	Gerald	Sensabaugh	87	62	62	68
74	Willie	Offord	85	60	64	75
74	Donte	Nicholson	87	63	61	68
74	Jarrod	Cooper	85	68	69	77
74	Jerome	Carter	86	64	62	75
73	Donnie	Nickey	85	60	68	66
73	Quentin	Harris	85	60	65	70
73	Dexter	Reid	89	63	62	63

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			Xbox	PS2	GameCube
	All Phases of the Game	Move your player	L	left analog stick	B then Z + R
		Flip play at the line	X then BLK	■ then R2	Z + R
		Play art	R	R2	Z + L
		Coach's cam—Unavailable online	L	L2	Z + L
		Call an audible before the snap	X then X, A, B, L, or R	■ then ■, ×, ●, L1, L2, or R1	B then A, Y, L, X, or R
		Cancel the audible before selecting a play	Y	▲	B then B
		Reset original play after calling an audible	X then WHT	■ then L2	A
		Call timeout	BLK	SELECT	Z + A
		Sprint	A	×	A
OFFENSIVE	Before the Snap	Snap ball	A	×	A
		Switch direction of a running play	◀R, R▶	right analog stick ←→	◀C C▶
		Change primary receiver's route on a passing play	◀R, R▶, B, and R	right analog stick ←→, ↑↓	C C ◀C C▶
		Hot Route to a different receiver	Y then the button of the receiver, then: A for a fly pattern X for a curl pattern ◀B or B▶ for an in/out pattern R to run smart route L or R for a left/right slant pattern	▲ then the button of the receiver, then: ↑ for a fly pattern ↓ for a curl pattern ←→for an in/out pattern right analog stick ↓ to run smart route L2/R2 for a left/right slant pattern. Note: You can press the left analog stick to change the receiver's route.	Y then the button of the receiver, then: C↑ for a fly pattern C↓ for a curl pattern C↔ for an in/out pattern C to run smart route Z + L or Z + R for a left/right slant pattern. Note: You can use the C to change the receiver's route.
		Send a player in motion	L or L to highlight eligible player then ◀L or L▶ to send that player in motion	left analog stick ↑↓ to highlight eligible player then left analog stick ←→ to send that player in motion	C↑↓ to highlight eligible player then C↔ to send that player in motion
		Slide offensive line protection	L then: A to spread the offensive line X to pinch the line ◀B or B▶ to shift blocking left/right	L1 button, then: ↑ to spread the offensive line ↓ to pinch the line ←→ to shift blocking left/right	L then: C↑ to spread the offensive line C↓ to pinch the line C↔ to shift blocking left/right
		Quiet crowd	L (click)	L3 button	Z + B
		Formation shift	BLK then ✪	R1 then D-pad	R then + ✤
		Fake snap	B	L2 or R2 + receiver icon	n/a
		New Lock on to receiver	L or R + receiver icon	n/a	n/a
		Change blocking assignment before the snap	n/a		n/a
	Running with the Ball	Sprint	A	×	A
		Highlight Stick	R	right analog stick ↑	C
		QB or wide receiver slide/Dive	X (tap)/ X (hold)	■ (tap)/■ (hold)	B (tap)/ B (hold)
		Cover up/Protect ball	Y	▲	Y
		Spin	B	●	X
		Juke left/right	L/R	L1/R1	L/R
		Back Juke	R	right analog stick ↓	C
		Stiff arm left/right	WHT/BLK	L2/R2	
	Passing/Receiving	New QB Vision Control	◀R or R▶	right analog stick ✤	Z
		New Lock on to receiver	R (pull and hold) + receiver icon	R2+ receiver icon	◀C C▶
		New Precision Passing	L or ✪	left analog stick or ✤	C or ✤ while throwing
		Throw the ball	Y, X, B, WHT, or BLK (tap button for lob pass; hold button for a bullet)	▲, ■, ●, L1,or R1 (tap button for lob pass; hold button for a bullet)	L or ✤ + receiver icon
		Activate Playmaker Passing to guide closest receiver	R (click) then R	R3 then right analog stick	Y, B, X, L, or R (tap for lob pass; hold for a bullet)
		Throw ball away	L (pull lightly)	L2 (tap)	Z + C
		QB Scramble behind the line with all the rushing moves available (Hardcore)	L(pull and hold) + X, B, R, WHT, or BLK	L2 (hold) + ■, ●, L1, R1, or R2	Z + Y
		Pump fake	R(pull and release)	R2 button	A
		Control intended receiver	B (while ball is airborne)	● (while ball is airborne)	
		Dive for pass	X	■	Z
		Sprint	A	×	X (while ball is airborne)
		Catch	Y	▲	B
		Swat	L	L1	A
					Y
					L
	Blocking	Switch to closest blocker	B	●	X
		Cut block	X or right analog stick down	■or right analog stick down	B or right analog stick down
		Sprint/Power block	A	×	A
		Jump	Y	▲	Y
		Change blocking assignment before the snap	Y then press the button of the running back or tight end whose passing/blocking route you want to change. Press White/Black Buttons to change the assignment left/right.	▲, then press the button of the running back or tight end whose passing/blocking route you want to change. Then press the L2/R2 to change the assignment left/right.	Y, then press the Button of the running back or tight end whose passing/blocking route you want to change. Press the Z+L to change to a blocking assignment to the left. Press the Z+R to change it to the right.
	After the Play	Spike ball to stop the clock	B (Hold)	● (Hold)	X (Hold)
		Instant replay	L + R (before playcalling screen appears)	L1 + R1 (before playcalling screen appears)	L + R (before playcalling screen appears)
		Fake spike ball trick play	X (Hold)	■ (Hold)	B (Hold)
		No huddle/Hurry-up offense	Y (Hold) to repeat previous play	▲ (Hold) to repeat previous play	Y (Hold) to repeat previous play
				Control Stick	

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			Xbox	PS2	GameCube
DEFENSIVE	Before the Snap	Choose a player to control	A or B (tap to change players one by one)	× or ● (tap to change players one by one)	Ⓐ or X (tap to change players one by one)
		Switch to closest defender	A or B (hold) + ⊙ in any direction	× or ● (hold) + D-pad in any direction	Ⓐ or X (hold) + ✥ in any direction
		View individual assignments	R (click)	R3 button	n/a
		Defensive Playmaker	Highlight a player then R: R to put linebackers and defensive lineman in a hook zone (yellow) or DBs in a deep zone (dark blue)—if the DB is already in a deep zone, it becomes a short zone R to blitz/R twice for QB contain blitz R to go into QB spy coverage (orange) R to play a flat zone (light blue)—if the coverage is already a flat zone, it becomes a curl zone/R twice to play a curl zone (purple)	Highlight a player then press right analog stick: ↑ to put linebackers and defensive lineman in a hook zone (yellow) or DBs in a deep zone (dark blue)—if the DB is already in a deep zone, it becomes a short zone ↓ to blitz/↓ twice for QB contain blitz ← to go into QB spy coverage (orange) → to play a flat zone (light blue)—if the coverage is already a flat zone, it becomes a curl zone/→ twice to play a curl zone (purple)	Highlight a player then ⊙: ⊙ to put linebackers and defensive lineman in a hook zone (yellow) or DBs in a deep zone (dark blue)—if the DB is already in a deep zone, it becomes a short zone. Linebackers and linemen can also be put in a deep zone by tapping ⊙ twice. ⊙ to blitz/⊙ twice for QB contain blitz ◀⊙ to go into QB spy coverage (orange) ⊙▶ to play a flat zone (light blue)—if the coverage is already a flat zone, it becomes a curl zone/⊙▶ twice to play a curl zone (purple)
		Defensive line shift	WHT then ⊙: to spread the defensive ends outside the tackles to move the line in tight between the tackles ◀▶ to shift the line left/right WHT then L to reset the shift	L1 then D-pad: ↑ to spread the defensive ends outside the tackles ↓ to move the line in tight between the tackles ←→ to shift the line left/right L1 then L2 to reset the shift	L then + ✥: ✥ to spread the defensive ends outside the tackles ✥ to move the line in tight between the tackles ✥ to shift the line left/right L then Z + L to reset the shift
		Defensive line adjustment	WHT then R: R to make line crash in R to make line rush to the outside ◀R▶ to make line crash left/right	L1 then right analog stick: ↓ to make line crash in ↑ to make line rush to the outside ←→ to make line crash left/right	L then ⊙: ⊙ to make line crash in ⊙ to make line rush to the outside ◀⊙▶ to make line crash left/right
		Linebacker shifts	BLK then ⊙: ⊙/⊙to spread linebackers out/move them in tight ◀▶ to shift linebackers left/right BLK then L to reset the shift	R1 then D-pad: ↓/↑ to spread linebackers out/move them in tight ←→ shift linebackers left/right R1 then L2 to reset the shift	R then + ✥: ✥ to spread linebackers out/move them in tight ✥ to shift linebackers left/right R then Z + L to reset the shift
		Secondary adjustments	Y then ◀R/R▶ or R/R to shift the safeties' zone coverage to the left/right/up/down	▲ then right analog stick ←→ or ↑↓ to shift the safeties' zone coverage to the left/right/up/down	R then ◀⊙▶ or ⊙⊙ to shift the safeties' zone coverage to the left/right or outside/middle
		Coverage audibles	Y then ⊙: ⊙/⊙ to put DBs into bump and run/loose coverage ▶ to shift the safeties and linebackers into better position to cover their assigned man Y then Ⓡ to make your defenders go to their default positions on the field (as seen on the playcalling screen) Y then L to reset coverage	▲ then D-pad: ↓/↑ to put DBs into bump and run/loose coverage → to shift the safeties and linebackers into better position to cover their assigned man ▲ then R2 to make your defenders go to their default positions on the field (as seen on the playcall screen) ▲ then L2 to reset coverage	Y then + ✥: ✥ to put DBs into bump and run/loose coverage ✥ to shift the safeties and linebackers into better position to cover their assigned man Y then the Z + R to make your defenders go to their default positions on the field (as seen on the playcalling screen) Y then Z + L to reset coverage
		Change individual matchups	Y then the button of the offensive player you want to match up against), then ⊙: ⊙/⊙ to bump/play off the receiver ▶ to double team the receiver with the highlighted defender	▲ then the button of the offensive player you want to match up against), then ✥: ↑ to bump/play off the receiver → to double team the receiver with the highlighted defender	Y then the button of the offensive player you want to match up against), then + ✥: ✥ to bump/play off the receiver ✥ to double team the receiver with the highlighted defender
		Pump up crowd (linebackers only)	L (click)	L3 button	Z + B
	After the Snap	Control player nearest to the ball	B	●	X
		Unleash the Hit Stick	R (in any direction)	right analog stick (in any direction)	Ⓒ (in any direction)
		Dive	X	■	B
		Sprint/Shove blocker	A	×	A
		Jump/Intercept/Hands up while rushing QB	Y	▲	Y (User has to hold this Button down for hands up while rushing the QB.)
		Strip ball (when not engaged)	WHT/BLK	L2/R2	Z
		Rip/Swim/Spin when engaged	L/R	L1/R1	L/R
		Strafe when not engaged	R	R1	R
		Rip/Swat ball/Swim move when engaged	L	L1	n/a
	Kicking Game	Change kick Direction/Elevation	L	left analog stick	⊙
		Kick the ball (aim with left analog/C stick)	A for all three steps: 1. Right analog stick down to start the meter 2. Right analog stick up to stop meter and kick the ball	× for all three steps: 1. Right analog stick down to start the meter 2. Right analog stick up to stop meter and kick the ball	Ⓐ for all three steps: 1. Right C stick down to start the meter 2. Right C stick up to stop meter and kick the ball
		Switch players	B	●	Ⓐ or X
		Fair catch (while controlling return man)	Y	▲	Y
		Touchback	Remain in the endzone	Remain in the endzone	Remain in the endzone

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PC CONTROLS

COMPLETE CONTROLS

This manual shows controls based on a Logitech® Dual Action™ Gamepad. Your controller may reference its buttons and analog sticks differently than those listed in this manual. Please consult the in-game control settings, your controller manufacturer's documentation, or the Game Controllers section of the Windows Control Panel.

For Keyboard and Mouse controls, this icon indicates to press the left mouse button and this icon indicates to press the right mouse button. An icon like this, for example, means you need to move the mouse in a certain direction while pressing a mouse button.

ALL PHASES

Action	Dual Action Gamepad	Keyboard	Keyboard and Mouse
Move your player	D-Pad	Arrow keys	W, A, S, D
Flip play at the line of scrimmage	Button 1 then Button 8	S then G	then
Sprint/Shove	Button 2	D	
Play art	Button 8	G	
Coach's cam (unavailable online)	Button 7	A	
Call an audible (before the snap)	Button 1 then Button 1, Button 2, Button 3, Button 5, or Button 6	S then S, D, F, W, or R	
Cancel audible (before selecting a play)	Button 4	E	
Reset original play (after calling an audible)	Button 1 then Button 7	S then A	then
Pause	Button 10	s	s
Call timeout	Button 9	T	T

OFFENSE

PRE-SNAP ADJUSTMENTS

Call a Hot Route	Button 4 then the button of the receiver, then: D-Pad 7 for a fly pattern D-Pad 3 for a curl pattern D-Pad - for an in/out pattern Right Analog Stick 3 to run smart route Button 7/Button 8 for a left/right slant pattern NOTE: You can press the Left Analog Stick to change the receiver's route.	E then the key corresponding to the receiver, then: Arrow key 7 for a fly pattern Arrow key 3 for a curl pattern Arrow keys - for an in/out pattern A/G for a left/right slant pattern	then the icon corresponding to the receiver, then: W for a fly pattern S for a curl pattern A/D for an in/ pattern for a left/right slant pattern

PRE-SNAP ADJUSTMENTS (CONT.)

Action	Dual Action Gamepad	Keyboard	Keyboard and Mouse
Send a player in motion	Left Analog Stick = to highlight eligible player then Left Analog Stick - to send that player in motion	Arrow keys = to highlight eligible player then Arrow keys - to send that player in motion	W/S to highlight eligible player then A/D to send him in motion left/right
Slide offensive line protection	Button 5, then D-Pad: 7 to spread the offensive line 3 to pinch the line 1/5 to shift blocking left/right	W then Arrow key : 7 to spread the offensive line 3 to pinch the line 1/5 to shift blocking left/right	then: W to spread the line S to pinch the line A/D to shift blocking left/right
Formation shift	Button 6 then D-Pad	R then Arrow keys	then W, S, A, D

RUNNING WITH THE BALL

NEW Highlight Stick	Right Analog Stick: 7 power backs lower their shoulder and "truck" over defenders/Agile backs dodge the tackler 3 Back juke 1/5 Big juke left/right	Left q then Arrow keys	q + W, A, S, or D
NEW Double Moves	Right Analog Stick 1 then quickly 5; or 5 then quickly 1	Left q then Arrow keys 1 then quickly 5; or vice versa	q + A then q + D
QB Dive	Button 1 (tap)	S (tap)	

RUNNING WITH THE BALL

Cover up/ Protect ball	Button 4	E	
Spin	Button 3	F	
Cut move left/ right	Button 5/Button 6	W/R	/
Stiff arm left/right	Button 7/Button 8	A/G	/

PASSING AND RECEIVING

Look left/right	Right Analog Stick 1/5	Left q then Arrow keys 1/5	Mouse 1/5
Change primary receiver/ Lock on to receiver	Button 8 + receiver's button	G + receiver's key	+ receiver's icon
Precision Passing	Left Analog Stick or D-Pad	Receiver key then arrow keys	Receiver icon then W, A, S, or D
Throw the ball	Button 4, Button 1, Button 3, Button 5, or Button 6 (tap button for lob pass; hold button for a bullet)	S, E, F, W, or R (tap key for lob pass; hold key for a bullet)	, , , , , or
Activate Playmaker Passing to guide primary receiver	Button 12 then Right Analog Stick	Left q then Arrow keys	Left q then W, A, S, or D

PASSING AND RECEIVING (CONT.)

Action	Dual Action Gamepad	Keyboard	Keyboard and Mouse
Throw ball away	Button 7 (tap)	A	
Call for ball	Button 5	W	
Pump fake	Button 8	G	
Control intended receiver	Button 3 (while ball is airborne)	F	
Dive for pass	Button 1	S	
Catch	Button 4	E	
Strafe/Swat	Button 5	W	,

NEW LEAD BLOCKING CONTROLS

You can begin any running play as the lead blocker (press Button 3 to select a blocker before the snap). After you open a big hole through the line, press Button 3 to switch to the runner and run to daylight.

NOTE: Fine tune the blocking controls to your liking in the Blocking Controls section of the My Madden Gameplay Settings menu.

Action	Dual Action Gamepad	Keyboard	Keyboard and Mouse
Impact/Cut block	Right Analog Stick 7/3	Left q then Arrow keys 7/3	q + W or S
Turn block left/right	Right Analog Stick 1/5	A/G	/
Pull/Hold defender left/right	Button 2/Button 3	W	
Diving block	Button 1	S	
Jump	Button 4	E	
Change blocking assignment (before the snap)	Button 4, then press the button of the running back or tight end whose passing/blocking route you want to change. Then press the Button 7/ Button 8 to change the assignment left/right.	E, then press the key corresponding to the running back or tight end whose passing/ blocking route you want to change. Then press A/G to change to a blocking assignment to the left/right.	, then press the icon corresponding to the running back or tight end whose passing/blocking route you want to . Then press / to change to a blocking assignment to the left/right.

AFTER THE PLAY

Spike ball (to stop the clock)	Button 3 (hold)	F (hold)	
Fake spike trick play	Button 1 (hold)	S (hold)	
No huddle/Hurry-up offense	Button 4 (hold) to repeat previous play	E (hold)	
Instant replay	Button 5 + Button 6 (before Playcalling screen appears)	W + R	N/A

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DEFENSE

PRE-SNAP ADJUSTMENTS

Action	Dual Action Gamepad	Keyboard	Keyboard and Mouse
Choose a player to control	Button 2/Button 3 (tap to change players)	D/F	
Defensive Playmaker	Highlight a player then press Right Analog Stick: 7 to put linebackers and defensive linemen in a hook zone (yellow) or DBs in a deep zone (dark blue)—if the DB is already in a deep zone, it becomes a short zone 3 to blitz/3 twice for QB contain blitz 1 to go into QB spy coverage (orange) 5 to play a flat zone (light blue)/ 5 twice to play a curl zone (purple)	Highlight a player then hold Left q and Arrow key : 7 to put linebackers and defensive linemen in a hook zone (yellow) or DBs in a deep zone (dark blue)—if the DB is already in a deep zone, it becomes a short zone 3 to blitz/3 twice for QB contain blitz 1 to go into QB spy coverage (orange) 5 to play a flat zone (light blue)/ 5 twice to play a curl zone (purple)	Highlight a player then hold Left q and: W to put linebackers and defensive linemen in a hook zone (yellow) or DBs in a deep zone (dark blue)—if the DB is already in a deep zone, it becomes a short zone S to blitz/S twice for QB contain blitz A to go into QB spy coverage (orange) D to play a flat zone (light blue)/D twice to play a curl zone (purple)
Defensive line adjustments	Button 5 then D-Pad: 7 to spread the defensive ends outside the tackles 3 to move the line in tight between the tackles 1/5 to shift the line left/right Button 5 then Right Analog Stick: 3 to make line crash in 7 to make line rush to the outside 1/5 to make line crash left/right Button 5 then Button 7 to reset	W + Arrow key: 7 to spread the defensive ends outside the tackles 3 to move the line in tight between the tackles 1/5 to shift the line left/right W then hold Left q and Arrow key: 3 to make line crash in 7 to make line rush the outside 1/5 to make line crash left/right W then A to reset	 then: W to spread the defensive ends outside the tackles S to move the line in tight between the tackles A/D to shift the line left/right  then hold Left q +: S to make line crash in W to make line rush the outside A/D to make line cr left/right  then to reset

PRE-SNAP ADJUSTMENTS (CONT.)

Action	Dual Action Gamepad	Keyboard	Keyboard and Mouse
Linebacker shifts	Button 6 then D-Pad: 7/3 to spread linebackers out/move them in tight 1/5 to shift linebackers left/right Button 6 then Right Analog Stick: 3 to blitz all linebackers 7 to call off all linebacker blitzes and put them into hook zone 1/5 to blitz the right/left outside linebacker Button 6 then Button 7 to reset	R + Arrow Keys: 7/3 to spread linebackers out/move them in tight 1/5 to shift linebackers left/right R then hold Left q + Arrow Key: 3 to blitz all linebackers 7 to call off all linebacker blitzes and put them into hook zone 1/5 to blitz the right/left outside linebacker R then A to reset	 then: W/S to spread linebackers out/move them in tight A/D to shift linebackers left/right  then hold Left q and: S to blitz all linebackers W to call off all linebacker blitzes and put them into hook zone A/D to blitz the right/left outside linebacker  then  to reset

PRE-SNAP ADJUSTMENTS (CONT.)

Coverage audibles	Button 4 then D-Pad: 3/7 to put DBs into bump and run/ loose coverage 5 to shift the safeties and linebackers into better position to cover their assigned man Button 4 then Button 7 to reset	E then Arrow Keys: 3/7 to put DBs into bump and run/ loose coverage 5 to shift the safeties and linebackers into better position to cover their assigned man E then A to reset	 then: S/W to put DBs into bump and run/loose coverage D to shift the safeties and linebackers into better position to cover their assigned man to reset
Shade safeties	Button 4 then Right Analog Stick to shift the safeties' zone coverage to the left/right/up/down	E then Left q then Arrow keys to shift the safeties' zone coverage to the left/right/up/down	 then q then A/D/W/S to shift the safeties' zone coverage to the left/right/up/down
Change individual matchups	Button 4 then the button of the offensive player you want to match up against, then D-Pad: 3/7 to bump/play off the receiver 5 to double team the receiver with the highlighted defender	E then the button of the offensive player you want to match up against, then Arrow keys 3/7 to bump/play off the receiver 5 to double team the receiver with the highlighted defender	then the button of the offensive player you want to match up against, then: S/W to bump/ play off the receiver D to double team the receiver with the highlighted defender

AFTER THE SNAP

Action	Dual Action Gamepad	Keyboard	Keyboard and Mouse
Control player nearest to the ball	Button 3	F	
 Commit to the run/pass	Right Analog Stick immediately after the snap of the ball to commit to: 7 a pass 3 an inside run 1/5 a run to the left/ right NOTE: Committing to a play is the ultimate risk/reward situation. If you commit to the wrong play, odds are the offense will take advantage in a big way.	q + Arrow keys immediately after the snap of the ball to commit to: 7 a pass 3 an inside run 1/5 a run to the left/ right NOTE: Committing to a play is the ultimate risk/reward situation. If you commit to the wrong play, odds are the offense will take advantage in a big way.	q + W, A, S, or D immediately after the snap of the ball to commit to: W a pass A an inside run S/D a run to the left/right NOTE: Committing to a play is the ultimate risk/reward situation. If you commit to the wrong play, odds are the offense will take advantage in a big way.
Unleash the Hit Stick	Right Analog Stick (in any direction)	Left q and any Arrow key	Left q and W, A, S, or D
Dive	Button 1	S	
Jump/Intercept/ Hands up (while rushing QB)	Button 4	E	
Strip ball (when not engaged)	Button 8	G	
Rip/Swim/Spin (when engaged)	Button 5	W	
Strafe (when not engaged)	Button 6	R	

KICKING GAME

Change kick direction/elevation	Left Analog Stick	Arrow keys	W, A, S, D

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